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I-T DEPT APOLOGISES AFTER INCORRECT EMAILS SENT TO SOME TAXPAYERS

The Income Tax Department was red-faced on Saturday after it sent emails to taxpayers with inaccurate details under 'significant transactions'

COMMUNICATION WAS PART OF E-CAMPAIGN

The department issued an official clarification after some taxpayers flagged the emails with incorrect details about their significant transactions. The emails were sent as part of the department's ongoing advance tax e-campaign for Assessment Year 2026–27. It is a digital outreach meant to alert taxpayers to verify their transactions

TAXPAYERS URGED TO IGNORE FAULTY EMAILS

- Taxpayers were urged to ignore the faulty emails. Officials said the e-campaign communications are intended only as reminders
- "When tax administration is increasingly driven by advanced digital systems, data analytics and real-time monitoring, such errors should be minimal," says Rajat Mohan, senior partner, AMRG & Associates

2026-27

THE FINANCIAL YEAR FOR WHICH ADVANCE TAX NOTICES WERE SENT

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

MAX EXPORT VIA KHARG
Kharg Island, targeted in US air strikes on Saturday, is a scrubby stretch of land in the Gulf that handles almost all of Iran's crude exports.The island is located around 30 km off the Iranian mainland. Kharg underwent major developments during Iran's oil expansion in the 1960s and 1970s, with much of the country's coast too shallow for supertankers.
Old beach park
Airport
KHARG ISLAND
Hospital
Gas power plant
Old boulevard
T Jetty
Oil and gas exploration service
IRAN
BANDAR ABBAS

2 LPG tankers clear Hormuz

Day begins with America carpet-bombing Kharg island, Iran's biggest oil export hub

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

WITH two LPG cargoes crossing the troubled Strait of Hormuz after Iran assured their safe passage, they are expected to reach Indian ports by March 16–17. Each of the vessels — Shivalik and Nanda Devi — are carrying more than 46,000 metric tonnes of LPG, with a combined cargo of around 92,700 tonnes. The shipments will be discharged at Kandla and Mundra ports.

As per ship-tracking data, Shivalik is currently travelling under Indian Navy's escort.

Six other LPG carriers are arriving from different parts of the world. They will be given priority berthing to ensure faster unloading and distribution, Rajesh Kumar Sinha, Special Secretary in the Shipping Ministry informed. Besides, one LNG cargo and four crude oil shipments are scheduled to arrive.

Daily LPG bookings have surged to around 8.8 million, compared with about 6 million before the crisis, Sujata Sharma, Joint Secretary in the Petroleum Ministry, said, indicating panic buying. "Regarding LPG supply, it remains a matter of concern for us in light of the prevailing geopolitical situation; however, no stockouts have been reported thus far," Sharma said.

Of the 22 Indian-flagged vessels currently stuck in the Persian Gulf, Sinha said six are LPG tankers, four crude oil tankers, three container ships and dry docks, two bulk carriers, one LNG carrier, one chemical products tanker, one empty ballast vessel and one dredger. As for the booking portal conking, Sharma said attempts to book before the minimum refill period will not be accepted by the system. She urged people to use digital booking platforms instead of visiting distributors and standing in queues.

1 Commercial LPG supply now under the purview of state govts to prioritise them

2 Commercial users urged to contact state govt for their LPG refill

3 Joint raids by Central and state teams on curb black marketing of cooking gas

4 Online booking currently accounts for about 84% of LPG bookings

Evacuate ports in UAE, warns Iran

AGENCIES @ Tel Aviv, Tehran, Dubai

IRAN issued an evacuation warning for three major ports in the UAE on Saturday, openly threatening a neighbouring country's non-US assets for the first time as its war with the US and Israel entered its third week.

Iran said the US had used "ports, docks and hideouts" in the UAE to launch strikes on Iran's Kharg Island, without providing evidence. It urged people to evacuate areas where it said US forces were sheltering. Hours later, there was a fire at Fujairah port in Dubai, caused by debris from an intercepted Iranian drone hitting an oil facility.

DAY 15 | WAR WATCH

Israel said the war against Iran was entering its "decisive phase", as explosions rocked cities across West Asia amid strikes on the US embassy in Baghdad, Tel Aviv and Iran's Ishfahan, where 15 were killed.

Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas urged Iran to refrain from targeting Gulf neighbours, many of which have supported its cause. Beyond the Gulf, Turkey said NATO forces shot down a ballistic missile launched from Iran. Oil-rich Qatar said it intercepted two missiles.

US President Donald Trump called upon the UK and its allies to send ships to secure the Strait of Hormuz. P12

NSA off, Wangchuk free days before SC hearing

RAJESH ASNANI, SUMIT KUMAR & FAYAZ WANI @ Jaipur/New Delhi/Srinagar

ACTIVIST Sonam Wangchuk was released from Jodhpur jail on Saturday after the Centre revoked his detention under the National Security Act (NSA).

His release, after six months in custody, comes days before the Supreme Court's final hearing of a petition by his wife, Geetanjali Angmo, against his detention.

On Saturday morning, Angmo arrived at the Jodhpur jail to receive Wangchuk. After completing the formalities, the two left together in a private vehicle under police protection.

Wangchuk was taken into custody by the Ladakh administration on September 24, 2025, and was transferred to the Jodhpur jail two days later. Authorities had accused him of "inciting violence" during protests demanding statehood for Ladakh and the implementation of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. The unrest reportedly left four dead and more than 150 injured.

In a social media post ahead of his release, Wangchuk reiterated his commitment to Ladakh, saying, "I have not backed down from activism. Our struggle was and will continue to be for the security, dignity, and future of Ladakh."

Analysts said the Centre may now initiate fresh talks with the leaders of Ladakh through a high-powered committee.

In a statement, the Union home ministry said the government had been actively engaging with various stakeholders and community leaders in Ladakh to address the aspirations and concerns of the people.

Ladakh Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena termed it a positive step by the Union government and underlined that there is no place for agitation, bandhs, or violence in Ladakh.

The Congress said the Centre should apologise not just to Wangchuk and his family, but also to the people of Ladakh.

Govt calls for dialogue

Reiterating its "commitment" to provide all necessary safeguards for Ladakh, the government expressed hope that the issues concerning the region will be resolved through constructive engagement and dialogue

'Big victory'

The Leh Apex Body and the Kargil Democratic Alliance, which are spearheading the agitation over demands for statehood for Ladakh termed Wangchuk's release a "big victory"

Principal makes kids stand in sun, parents file plaint

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Yelahanka New Town police registered a non-cognisable report against the principal of a private school in Attur Layout after she reportedly made a few students stand outside in the sun for two hours for arriving two minutes late to school.

The students were made to hold their books and stand in the sun. When parents questioned the principal, she allegedly dismissed them, saying if students cannot stand in the sun, then their physical training classes will have to be stopped as they play in the sun. The principal too filed a complaint against the parents and the police have booked a case of criminal intimidation.

A video of the conversation between the principal and the parents has gone viral. Home Minister G Parameshwara and police officers have been tagged to the video of the incident that reportedly happened on Friday.

On Saturday morning, the jurisdictional Yelahanka New Town police stated they have taken a serious note of the incident, which has been reported under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015. "Subjecting children to physical or mental suffering is a punishable offence. Such incidents should be reported directly to the police or child protection authorities," the police replied.

EXPRESS READ

Modi kicks off campaign in Bengal, says end of 'maha jangal raj' begins

Kolkata: Prime Minister Narendra Modi kick-started the BJP's election campaign in West Bengal by launching the Parivartan Sankalp Sabha rally in Kolkata on Saturday. He attacked the Mamata Banerjee's government, saying that "the countdown for the end of 'maha jangalraj' has begun in the state" and blamed the ruling TMC for ignoring infiltrations and obstructing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls | P10

Centre rules out fertiliser shortage risk for upcoming Kharif season

New Delhi: Despite concerns about potential supply disruptions linked to the ongoing war in West Asia, the government on Saturday said that the country has adequate fertiliser stocks for the upcoming Kharif 2026 cropping season. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "What I can tell you is that India has more than adequate stocks of fertilisers at this point in time, especially for Kharif 2026" | P9

Fish kill in B'gavi village as sun dries up lake

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

IN a distressing incident triggered by extreme summer heat, thousands of fish have died after a lake dried up in Chikka Bagewadi village of Bailhongal taluk in Belagavi district.

The lake, located on the outskirts of the village, has witnessed a drastic drop in water levels due to the scorching heat prevailing in the region over the past few weeks. As the water level reduced significantly, the fish were left struggling in shallow patches of water without adequate oxygen and space to move, resulting in the death of thousands of fish.

According to residents, the lake had been used for fish farming by farmer Shankar Gouda Patil, who had released nearly 50,000 fish into the water body. He has been farming fish at the lake for the last three to four years and has invested lakhs of rupees. But the sudden dip in water levels and death of fish has caused him a massive loss. CONTINUED ON: P7

Dead fish at the Chikka Bagewadi lake in Belagavi

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ALMANAC TODAY
Sunday: 15.03.2026 **Year:** Vishwavasu **Ayana:** Uththarayana
Ritu: Sishir **Masa:** Phalguna **Paksha:** Krishna **Tithi:** Ekadasi 7.01 am
Nakshatra: Shravana 4.09 am **Moon in** Kumbha Rashi **Rahukaala:** 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm **Yamaganda:** 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 17°C | MAX 34°C
FORECAST Mostly sunny

Sunrise 06.27 am
Sunset 06.30 pm
Moonrise 03.38 am
Moonset 03.19 pm

IFTAR A CATALYST FOR BUILDING BRIDGES

As the holy month of Ramzan is under way, inclusive iftar parties are being organised across Karnataka that are breaking barriers, forming bonds across religions and helping communities rediscover shared humanity

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

AMID the spiritual discipline of fasting, the month of Ramzan is quietly transforming into a season for building bridges across the state.

Interfaith iftar gatherings are emerging as potent platforms where mistrust gives way to mutual respect, broken bonds mend and communities rediscover shared humanity. On Tuesday, the historic Ulsoor Gurdwara Sahib in Bengaluru opened its doors for an inclusive iftar. Hundreds of non-Sikhs and non-Muslims joined Sikh and Muslim hosts, breaking fast together.

Jamaat-e-Islami Hind National Secretary Syed Tanveer Ahmed, a key mover behind the initiative, said, "We have encouraged mosque committees, social organisations and individuals to host inclusive iftars. Whether it's a shared meal, a guided mosque visit to dispel misconceptions, or post-Eid community celebrations, the goal remains the same — replace suspicion and division with mutual respect and understanding."

In Bengaluru's Gangenahalli, RT Nagar, a local mosque committee welcomed diverse participants to an iftar. Shantinagar MLA and BDA Chairman NA Haris hosted a large-scale event in Austin Town, drawing hundreds from different faiths to share the evening meal. Dr Taha Mateen, an office-bearer with Jamaat-e-Islami, said, "Ramzan is a time for spiritual cleansing, seeking forgiveness, and restoring neglected responsibilities — including mending broken friendships and relationships. In an era of invisible walls that isolate us and too often turn into hatred, the humane spirit of Ramadan reminds us we cannot be complete without reconciling with our neighbours, colleagues and fellow citizens."

He said these peace meetings actively dispel mistrust and hate, turning the month into an opportunity for compassion, kindness, and caring for the underprivileged.

A former chief secretary of Karnataka, recalling his time in Libya, said, "At iftar time, every house's front door would be open. People on the street would simply enter any home and break their fast together. This is the true openness of heart and hearth that builds great societies and nations."

In Basavana Bagewadi, the birthplace of 12th century reformer Basavanna, a joint "Iftar Souharda Koot" (Harmonious Iftar), organised by the Rashtriya Basava Sainya and Jamaat-e-Islami two days ago, hit the message home.

Founder-president Shankaragouda Biradar said, "Though religious practices differ, the core message of humanity and harmony is one. Basavanna's teachings and Islam's spirit of brotherhood both unite society." As Ramzan progresses (with Eid expected on March 18 or 19), more open celebrations are planned to extend the spirit of reconciliation. These humble iftar tables are proving that fasting together — and sharing a meal — can heal wounds, dissolve barriers, and build a more compassionate Karnataka, one sunset at a time.

(Above) Shantinagar MLA N A Haris speaks at an iftar event in Austin Town; people across faiths at an iftar party in Basavana Bagewadi, Vijayapura district| EXPRESS

> *Ramzan is a time for spiritual cleansing and restoring neglected responsibilities - including mending broken relationships. In an era of invisible walls that isolate us and often turn into hatred, the humane spirit of Ramadan reminds us we cannot be complete without reconciling with our neighbours, colleagues and fellow citizens*
>
> **Dr Taha Mateen, office-bearer, Jamaat-e-Islami**

GAYATHRI M KURUP @Bengaluru

Advising diabetes and BP patients to start walking daily, Dr Vittal Kamath himself took to it in 2008, and now at 72, he is in 'the pink of his health'

The doc who walks the talk

WHEN someone asks, "Aren't you a bit old for that?", think again. Gone are the days when 70-year-olds stayed home caring for grandchildren and depended on their children. In the era of Gen Alpha, grandpas are cooler than your boy next door. They go for early morning runs, watch their diet and track their protein intake.

Dr Vittal Kamath, who is 72, rises at 2.45 am and starts walking by 3.30 am, covering nearly 24 km daily. He follows it with yoga, pranayama and a disciplined, immunity-boosting diet. Inspired by those living with diabetes and hypertension, he began this routine in 2008 to "practice what he preaches".

"I'm in the pink of health. I challenge any 17-year-old to keep pace with me in a race," says Dr Kamath. "I used to see many patients, including farmers, with very high diabetes and blood pressure. When I spoke to them, I realised the main reason was lack of exercise. As doctors, we must practice what we preach. That thought made me start walking," he says.

Dr Kamath began modestly on January 1, 2008, with a daily 5 km walk. Within two months, he increased it to 10 km, and after six months to 15 km. Over the years, the routine expanded to about 33,000 steps a day, roughly 24 km, a schedule he has been following for the past 18 years.

Now living in Bengaluru, he follows a strict daily routine. He wakes up during "Brahma Muhurta", between 3.30 am and 5.30 am, that is believed to help in mental clarity and positivity. His walk lasts from 3.30 am to 5 am, followed by yoga and pranayama for 45 minutes, with additional walking sessions later in the morning, afternoon and evening within his apartment premises, which is five-and-a-half hours every day.

"I am committed; come rain or shine, I wake up and walk. Even when I am abroad, I make sure that I complete my walking schedule," he says.

Starting small and building gradually is his mantra. His advice to others, "Begin with short distances and increase step by step." He recommends a brisk walk rather than running, explaining that consistent and measured activity is key to long-term health and stamina.

The routine has transformed his health. "For more than 15 years, I haven't caught a cold. My blood pressure, heart rate and other parameters are all within normal limits," he says.

He also attributes his well-being to dietary discipline. His meals include salads, millets and protein-rich food. "One must eat only about 80% of what the body demands," he says, emphasising hydration and moderation. Walking is also a mental exercise for him. He spends the early hours chanting verses from the Bhagavad Gita and practising acupressure before starting his walk.

To keep himself supremely fit, Dr Kamath climbs stairs daily, which began when his clinic was on the upper floor of his house. "I used to go up and down the staircase at least 15 times a day, which indirectly strengthened my legs and improved my stamina," he says. Even today, it remains a key part of his routine, helping maintain strength and cardiovascular health.

His commitment to physical fitness has earned him national and international recognition. Dr Kamath has set records for climbing temple steps at remarkable speeds -- 437 steps at Trichy's Rockfort Vinayaka temple in five minutes, 272 steps at Malaysia's Batu Caves in six minutes, 300 steps at Nepal's Muktinath temple in four minutes, and 650 steps at Shravanabelagola in seven minutes. He has also completed the challenging Tiger's Nest Monastery trek in Bhutan.

24 km Walks daily (33,000 steps)

437 Steps climbed at Rockfort Ucchi Pillayar Temple in 5 minutes

300 Steps climbed at Muktinath Temple in 4 minutes

> **I used to see many patients with very high diabetes and blood pressure. When I spoke to them, I realised the main reason was lack of exercise. As doctors, we must practice what we preach. That thought made me start walking**
>
> — Dr Vittal Kamath, Rtd Dental Surgeon

GBA plans more biogas plants to process city's wet waste

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

GREATER Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao said steps will be taken to establish more biogas plants within GBA limits. After visiting the waste-to-energy facility at Koramangala under the Bengaluru South City Corporation limits, he said a comprehensive study will be conducted to produce biogas from wet waste in the city.

Rao said establishing each decentralised units in five city corporations would require two to three acres of land. In the short term, existing facilities will be upgraded to produce biogas, and steps will be taken to supply the gas to nearby hotels.

"At present, biogas is being produced from 10 tonnes of waste at the (Koramangala) facility and supplied to a nearby hotel. Steps will be taken to increase this capacity," he said.

Chief Executive Officer of Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) Karee Gowda said the biogas plant at Koramangala, with a capacity of 8.5 tonnes, supplies around 120 kg of biogas daily to a nearby hotel. At Rs 70 per kg, this generates approximately Rs 8,400 per day.

Of the 12 biogas plants earlier constructed by the erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), six are currently operational. Each plant processes about five tonnes of wet waste per day. Renovation work is underway to revive the remaining six plants.

"At biogas plants, around 30–50 kg of biogas can be produced from one tonne of wet waste. Accordingly, about 200 kg of gas is produced daily at each plant. The generated biogas is used for internal consumption within the plants, and surplus gas is used to generate electricity through generators to light nearby parks," Gowda said.

He added that steps have been taken to construct four new decentralised biomethanation plants. Two of these plants, in Ward 151 and Ward 27, have been completed and will become operational soon. Construction of the remaining two plants in Ward 196 and Ward 56 is underway.

With the cooperation of GAIL, work has also begun on a new biogas plant capable of processing about 300 tonnes of wet waste per day. In addition, approval has been given to sign an agreement with Sataram Company to establish a plant in Kannahalli to produce biogas from around 1,000 tonnes of wet waste.

> **When the service was introduced the weather was pleasant. The services saw a very good response. Discussions are being held to extend it to late evening hours, not compromising safety of tourists** — KV Trilok Chandra, tourism secretary

Tourism Minister HK Patil flags off double-decker buses as part of KSTDCs Ambaari hop on hop off services in Bengaluru recently | EXPRESS

Hop on hop off buses to run till late evening tours

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

THE 'Ambaari' double decker hop on hop off bus service would soon ply during late evening hours in the city.

With summer, day time trips are becoming uncomfortable for people. The state tourism department officials said the bus is also being offered to tourist groups to be used for hosting special events and parties like birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.

According to Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC), on an average, 350 tourists hop on the bus during weekdays. The officials said the numbers are now reducing because of high temperatures and, often, afternoon services get no tourists.

The bus travels from Ravindra Kalakshetra and back, covering Vidhana Soudha, Cubbon Park, Visvesvaraya Museum and Chinnaswamy Stadium. The tickets costs Rs 180 per person. The open air tourist bus service was reintroduced in Bengaluru after 27 years.

To ensure there are no untoward incidents, the KSTDC coordinated with the Bangalore Electricity Supply Corporation Limited, Greater Bengaluru Authority and state forest department to prune branches and shift utilities.

Tourism secretary KV Trilok Chandra said when the service was introduced the weather was pleasant. The services saw a very good response. Discussions are being held to extend it to late evening hours, not compromising safety of tourists.

He spoke to *TNIE* at the inauguration of the three-day Travel and Tourism Fair (TTF) organised by the Ministry of Tourism and State Tourism Department. He said the bus can also be booked for special occasions for long durations by citizens. This is the first time such a service is being offered to enhance the tourism experience.

CIVIC POLLS: BNP CLAIMS VOTERS WRONGLY MAPPED ACROSS CITY WARDS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) has alleged large-scale discrepancies in the electoral rolls prepared for the upcoming corporation elections, claiming that several voters have been mapped to wards where they do not reside.

The party said preliminary verification found residents from the same streets, layouts and apartment complexes spread across multiple polling booths, resulting in incorrect ward mapping.

BNP founder Srikanth Narasimhan said the party's analysis of Ward No. 34 (Chikkathoguru) and Ward No. 33 (Naganathapura) found 47 voters wrongly mapped under Naganathapura and 105 voters incorrectly placed in Chikkathoguru. He added that since publicly available rolls do not contain complete address details, the actual number of misplaced voters could exceed 1,000 in each ward.

The party said the issue stems from the absence of proper "sectioning" in the preparation of the voter list. As per the Election Commission of India's manual, sectioning requires residents from the same physical geography—such as a street or apartment complex—to be grouped within a single section of a polling booth.

BNP also claimed that supervisors and Booth Level Officers responsible for allocating voters are unable to perform their duties accurately because they do not have access to full address data, which is available only in the system's backend.

Vishnu Reddy said the errors raise serious questions about the credibility of the electoral process, adding that if voters cannot determine which ward they belong to, it could undermine public trust.

BNP said it has submitted supporting data to the Election Commission and urged it to conduct a ward-wise sectioning exercise before the final publication of the electoral rolls to ensure voters are mapped correctly.

The newly-constructed mega dairy, built at a cost of ₹830 crore across 150 acres at the Industrial Growth Centre near Hassan, will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The date for the inauguration will be fixed after May

Investment firm partner gets 5-yr RI for cheating

YATHIRAJU @Bengaluru

A city civil and sessions court has sentenced Mohamed Idhrees of an investment firm to five years' rigorous imprisonment for cheating a man of Rs1.50 lakh after promising him 7% returns per month.

The court has also ordered Idhrees to pay a fine of Rs 5 lakh.

The complainant paid Rs 1 lakh in cash to Idhrees and transferred Rs 50,000 to the bank account of a person referred by him even before his investment firm came into existence in December 2013.

The court said Idhrees has been convicted in eight similar cases, and he is involved in nearly 10 such cases wherein serious allegations of cheating and defrauding have been levelled against him. Similar cases are pending against him in Tamil Nadu. He was arrested in another case at Ariyalur in Tamil Nadu some time ago.

Considering the aggravating and mitigating factors, the court said that Idhrees, who is a partner of the investment firm, committed a white collar offence, which bleeds the nation's economy.

Satish J Bali, Judge of XLVII Additional City Civil and Sessions Court, passed the order on Friday on a charge-sheet filed against him in 2015 by CCB (Fraud and Misappropriation Squad) under Section 420 of the IPC and Section 9 of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004. The court, acquitted him of the offences under Section 9 of the Act. It also acquitted other accused Mohammed Ameer Basha of M/s Fosterfin Capital Management, and Venkatachalam Ramachandran of offences punishable under Section 420 of the IPC and Section 9 of the Act, as the prosecution failed to prove their role in deceiving the victim.

FUN RIDE

Workers install a Ferris wheel at a fair ahead of summer vacation at a ground in Kengeri in Bengaluru | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Wanted for 16 years, woman thief escapes after arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A notorious woman thief from Tamil Nadu managed to escape from police custody in Ramanagara just after midnight on Friday. The 40-year-old thief, wanted by the police for the last 16 years, had been arrested along with two of her associates by the Magadi police recently.

As women accused cannot be detained at a police station after sunset, she was shifted to the Sakhi Kendra at Ramanagara District Hospital. Around 12.30 am on Friday, she managed to escape.

The accused, Mala, a resident of Kammasandra, Bengaluru, was from Hosur, Tamil Nadu. After Mala and her two associates were arrested, the police had taken them into their custody till March 23 to recover stolen properties. Two women police personnel were at the hospital guarding Mala when she escaped.

After realising that she had run away, the police searched for her at bus stations, railway station and other places, but could not trace her.

A complaint was filed at the Ramanagara Town police station by station Inspector ST Srinivasa. A case of resistance or obstruction by a person to lawful apprehension under section 262 of BNS has been registered against Mala.

Man kills woman, stages it as suicide

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A 23-year-old woman was murdered by her live-in partner in Varthur police limits on Thursday night. The two were staying at a rented house at Ramdas Layout in Kodathi village. The accused, KB Ayyappa, killed Ranjitha and made it look like suicide by hanging her body.

The police registered a case and took it up for investigation after Ranjitha's mother filed a complaint suspecting Ayyappa's hand behind the incident. Ayyappa (26) from Ponnampet, Kodagu, strangled Ranjitha with a cable and then hanged her body, the police said.

Ayyappa was married, but had separated from his wife. He had promised Ranjitha's parents that he would marry her after divorcing his wife. When her parents started opposing their relationship, he brought Ranjitha to Bengaluru. "A fortnight ago, she had called her mother, saying Ayyappa was harassing her mentally and physically every day," said an officer.

The couple is said to have had regular fights for the past one week. After killing her, the accused called her parents and told them that their daughter had died by suicide.

Kidney health awareness drive by Kauvery hosp

Bengaluru: To mark World Kidney Day, Kauvery Hospitals organised a kidney health awareness drive at busy traffic junctions in Electronic City and Marathahalli. Hospital teams stood at signals holding placards and distributed kidney health screening cards to more than 2,000 commuters waiting at signal lights. The campaign followed a large health screening conducted by the hospital across Bengaluru and nearby areas. A total of 24,264 people were screened in locations including Electronic City, Marathahalli, Hosur, Chikkaballapur, JP Nagar and HSR Layout. Of them, more than 6,600 people (over 27 per cent) were found to have elevated blood pressure, many without knowing about their condition earlier. In Electronic City alone, 552 of the 1,980 people screened had high blood pressure readings. Similar trends were observed in Chandapura, Anekal and Kammasandra, where several participants were unaware that they were hypertensive. Doctors said diabetes and high blood pressure are major causes of kidney disease and often damage the kidneys silently without early symptoms. They urged people to regularly monitor their blood pressure and blood sugar levels and undergo simple blood and urine tests to detect kidney problems at an early stage. As part of the initiative, the hospital also launched an online kidney health portal where residents can take a kidney risk assessment quiz and access information reviewed by nephrologists.

Bengaluru woman donates blood stem cells, saves Kerala teen

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

SWATHI (32) from Bengaluru has saved the life of Anandu (19), from Kerala, by donating her blood stem cells after he was diagnosed with Severe Aplastic Anemia. On doctor's advise, Anandu underwent a matched unrelated donor transplant in early 2023. Following the stem cell transplant, Anandu has fully recovered and is now preparing for his Class 12 board examinations, while pursuing his passion for photography and videography. Swathi and and Anandu came together at a donor-patient meeting on Thursday. Doctors said, the teen experienced expected complications, including febrile neutropenia and mucositis, but his recovery progressed well.

Swathi

Swathi, an IT consultant, had registered as a potential donor during a drive organised by DKMS Foundation India in 2016. In 2022, she was identified as a match for Anandu and agreed to donate. Recalling the preparation process before the donation, Swathi said that daily growth factor injections and the four-hour collection procedure caused minimal discomfort. "Many people have fears about donating, especially concerns about infertility," she said. "My family was initially worried, but doctors confirmed there is no risk. I later had a baby and faced no complications. I want people to know that donation is safe.

Patrick Paul, Executive Chairman of DKMS India, emphasized the importance of donor registration. He said that only 0.09% of India's eligible population is registered. Dr. Govind Eriat, Consultant Hemato-Oncologist & Bone Marrow Transplant at Cytecare Hospitals in Bengaluru said, "Swathi's selfless decision gave Anandu another chance at life. Stories like these show the impact of compassion and the critical role of blood stem cell donation."

Swathi urged more people to register as donors, "You could give hope to a patient and their family. It is one step of kindness that can save a life, and give someone a second chance."

EXPRESS READ

11-YEAR-OLD STUDENT DROWNS IN LAKE IN MANDYA DISTRICT

MANDYA: An 11-year-old student drowned in a lake in Malavalli town on Saturday. The police said Basant Kumar, a class 5 student of a government primary school in the town, drowned while his friend Hemanth (12), a class 6 student, was rescued. According to the police, a group of students had gone swimming in a nearby lake after completing their examinations. During the swim, Basant and Hemanth reportedly began to drown. While Hemanth was rescued by locals, Basant could not be saved. Hemanth is currently undergoing treatment at a hospital in Malavalli. A case has been registered at the Malavalli Town police station.

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Anjuman Hami-e-Muslimeen Bhatkal, Uttar Kannada District

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

As per Order No1: ಜ7/ಶಾ.ಶಿ.ಅ/ಹು.ಭ.ಅ/ಇ.ಆಂ.ಉ/05/2025-26 Dated :17.05.2025 (Islamia Anglo Urdu High School Bhatkal Dist. Uttarkannada) and Order No2:G5/ACPIDW/GIA/VPP/E-18207/16/2025-26 Dated: 24.02.2026(Anjuman Girls High School Basti Road Bhatkal Dist. Uttarkannada) of the Honorable Additional Commissioner, Department of School Education, Dharwad, applications are invited from eligible candidates for the vacant Assistant Teacher posts in the high schools run by the **Anjuman Hami-e-Muslimeen Bhatkal,** Uttar Kannada District.

Sl. No	Name of Schools	No. of Posts	Post Details	Medium of the School (sectionwise)	Qualification	Reservation	Pay Scale
1	Islamia Anglo Urdu High School Bhatkal Dist. Uttarkannada	1	Assistant Teacher Urdu Language	Urdu	B.A B.Ed	Reservation Rules are Not Applicable	(54175-99400)
		1	Assistant Teacher Science (P.C.M)	Urdu	B.sc B.Ed		(54175-99400)
		1	Assistant Teacher Science (C.B.Z)	Urdu	B.sc B.Ed		(54175-99400)
		1	Assistant Teacher Social-Science	English	B.A B.Ed		(54175-99400)
2	Anjuman Girls High School Basti Road Bhatkal Dist. Uttarkannada	1	Assistant Teacher English Language	English	B.A B.Ed	Reservation Rules are Not Applicable	(54175-99400)
		1	Assistant Teacher Science (P.C.M)	English	B.sc B.Ed		(54175-99400)
		1	Assistant Teacher Social-Science	English	B.A B.Ed		(54175-99400)
		1	Assistant Teacher Science (C.B.Z)	English	B.sc B.Ed		(54175-99400)
		1	Assistant Teacher Urdu Language	Urdu	B.A B.Ed		(54175-99400)

As per Notification No. ED 291 LBP 2015 dated 29/09/2016, applications are invited from eligible candidates for teaching posts in various schools. Interested candidates must submit their applications with complete details and attested copies of required documents within 21 days from the date of publication of this advertisement to the address mentioned below. A copy of the application must also be submitted to the Deputy Director, Department of School Education, Uttara Kannada. Applicants must submit a Demand Draft (DD) or Indian Postal Order (IPO) of Rs.1500/- (Rupees One Thousand Five Hundred only) in favour of General Secretary, Anjuman Hami-e-Muslimeen Bhatkal, Uttar Kannada District. The fee is non-refundable. Separate applications must be submitted for each school and each subject, and the school name and subject should be clearly written on the application and cover. Incomplete or late applications will be rejected without notice. Interview date will be intimated later.

Sd/ General Secretary
Anjuman Hami-e-Muslimeen Bhatkal,
Uttar Kannada District

Place: Bhatkal
Date: 12-03-2026

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Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R Ashoka on Saturday said if Pakistani and Bangladeshi citizens are included in the voter list, it will be dangerous for the security of the country. He was speaking after taking part in a workshop marking the setting up of an office for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) at the state BJP office

CM'S MEET WITH MINs SANS DKS RAISES EYEBROWS

He may discuss cabinet reshuffle for which he is planning to go to Delhi soon to meet Congress high command

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah's plan to host a dinner for a few select cabinet colleagues, except Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, on Monday has raised many eyebrows in political circles.

Ministers Ramalinga Reddy, RB Thimmapur, Shivananda Patil and HC Mahadevappa are among those invited, according to a source.

However, those invited are not aware of the agenda of the meeting. Siddaramaiah is likely to throw them a surprise, the source said.

Even as sources in the CMO claimed that the contentious SC internal reservation is likely to be the topic, Siddaramaiah may discuss cabinet reshuffle for which he is planning to go to New Delhi soon to meet the Congress high command. By organising the dinner meeting, Siddaramaiah will send a strong message to Shivakumar and his camp that he will continue as CM. Assembly polls in five states, especially in Assam for which Shivakumar has been appointed as a party observer, would also come for discussion, according to the source.

"When the CM held a special cabinet meeting to discuss the internal quota issue on March 27, his dinner meeting on Monday will have a different agenda," a senior Congress leader said.

Shivakumar, who is scheduled to hold a meeting of MPs from the state to discuss various pending irrigation projects, is also likely to meet the party high command and push for a change in leadership in the state, the source added.

Cabinet will decide: Dr G

Meanwhile, Home Minister G Parameshwara has expressed the hope that a decision on internal quota will be taken at the cabinet meeting on March 27 and the government will issue an order before filling 56,432 vacancies in various departments. Justice Nagmohan Das's recommendations are likely to be discussed at the cabinet meeting. With this being the situation, the SC right communities have planned a rally next week in Bengaluru against the implementation of internal quota within 15% and adhering to the 50% cap.

Meanwhile, leaders from the SC left communities said that all SC communities should back internal reservation. "Since it is a struggle for social justice, nobody should think that it is against any community," Marasandra Muniyappa said on Saturday.

"If an order is not issued to implement internal reservation at all levels on March 27, we will intensify our struggle. Activists from all districts of the state, including Bengaluru, will oppose the government. The government should consider the sentiments of SC communities and ensure social justice," Ambanna Arolikar, a Dalit leader, said.

Former minister BT Lalitha Naik opposed internal reservation alleging that it will do injustice to most communities within the SC category.

"This is not something that can be resolved. It is good to do as the court says," she said.

CM: ₹3,000 CRORE SET ASIDE FOR UKP PH-III COMPENSATION

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and DCM DK Shivakumar at the foundation stone programme in Bagalkot on Saturday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bagalkot

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah said the allegations by the Bharatiya Janata Party that the state government has no funds for development works due to its guarantee schemes are far from the truth.

He was speaking after laying the foundation stone for the Bagalkot Medical College and launching the compensation distribution programme for lands acquired under the third phase of the Upper Krishna Project Phase III on Saturday.

Rejecting the BJP's claims that the government lacks funds for development due to its guarantee schemes, he said the government is giving equal priority to both welfare guarantees and development works. "Every year around Rs 50,000 crore is spent on guarantee schemes and so far Rs.1.22 lakh crore has been spent. Even though the BJP was in power for four years, it did not establish a medical college in Bagalkot," he said.

Paying tribute to former MLA H Y Meti, he said the establishment of the government medical college in Bagalkot was due to the efforts of Meti.

The CM said the government intends to establish medical colleges and trauma care centres in every district, and action has already been initiated in about 25 districts. He added that steps will also be taken to establish a super speciality hospital in Bagalkot next year.

Referring to the UKP Phase III, the CM said the previous BJP government had not shown interest in providing compensation for land acquisition under the project, which discouraged farmers from coming forward to part with their land. "Our government has decided to provide compensation in one instalment to farmers who voluntarily give up their land," he said.

Siddaramaiah said Rs 3,000 crore has been reserved in the budget for land compensation under UKP Phase III and additional grants will be arranged if required. The government has decided to provide Rs 40 lakh per acre for irrigated land and Rs 30 lakh per acre for dry land.

Siddaramaiah also announced that Rs 446 crore compensation is being distributed for about 900 acres of land in eight villages coming under the project.

Candidates for bypolls

On the selection of candidates for the upcoming by-elections in Bagalkot and Davanagere, Siddaramaiah said the decision will be taken by the party high command. Responding to questions about whether members of the family of late leader HY Meti would be considered for Bagalkot, he said anyone can be an aspirant, but the party will give the ticket to only one candidate as decided by the high command. He added that the by-election may be announced within a week and the party is fully prepared for it.

Meeting on reservation

Regarding internal reservation, Siddaramaiah said a meeting has been convened on March 27 to discuss the issue and a decision will be taken on that day. Responding to allegations by opposition leaders that no funds were allocated in the budget for the Upper Krishna Project, the CM said the distribution of relief cheques to affected families will begin on Saturday and will continue for the next three to four years.

Replying to criticism from the BJP that laying the foundation stone for the medical college and announcing funds of Rs 40 lakh each for statues of Chhatrapati Shivaji and Basavanna during the by-election period was an election gimmick, Siddaramaiah questioned why the BJP had not established a medical college during its four years in power.

The CM said tenders have already been floated and an agency has been appointed to construct the medical college, and the foundation stone is being laid as the work is set to begin.

Siddaramaiah said his government is working to remove regional imbalances in development of North Karnataka.

Siddaramaiah said the government will establish medical colleges in all districts of the state to strengthen healthcare infrastructure and improve access to quality medical education and treatment.

> *The decision taken by the state regarding the project and compensation for farmers aims to ensure that development works move forward while protecting the interests of farmers*
>
> DK Shivakumar, Deputy CM

> *The previous BJP govt had not shown interest in providing compensation for land acquisition under the project, which discouraged farmers from coming forward to part with their land*
>
> Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister

MPs to meet in Delhi to discuss AP govt's objections on Almatti

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bagalkot

STATING that Andhra Pradesh has raised arbitrary objections to raising the height of Almatti dam, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar said a meeting with MPs from Karnataka will be held in New Delhi in a couple of days to discuss issues related to the implementation of the Upper Krishna Project Phase III (UKP-III) and objections raised by Andhra Pradesh government.

He was speaking to media persons in Bagalkot on Saturday during the foundation laying ceremony of a new government medical college and handing over compensation cheques to farmers who gave up their land for UKP-III. Shivakumar said the state will raise its voice against the objections made by Andhra Pradesh and also press the Centre to support Karnataka's stand.

He said Andhra Pradesh has written to the Centre objecting to the implementation of the third phase of the project and the ongoing land acquisition process. The Centre has sought clarification from Karnataka in this regard. However, the state government is moving ahead with the works in accordance with the tribunal order and plans to utilise its rightful share of water. Works worth around Rs 26,000 crore have already been initiated under the project, he said.

Clarifying that the height of Almatti Dam is not being increased at present, Shivakumar said Karnataka is only preparing to utilise the share of water allotted to it as per the 2010 tribunal order. He also pointed out that around 30 tmcft of water is being wasted from the Tungabhadra Dam and alleged that the Andhra Pradesh government has not cooperated in efforts to find a solution to prevent this wastage.

Shivakumar said he, along with ministers H K Patil, M B Patil and N S Boseraju, will travel to Delhi to discuss these issues with MPs from Karnataka and exert pressure on the Centre to safeguard the state's interests.

He said the government is providing compensation for about 1.33 lakh acres of land required for the project and has decided to hand over Rs 3,000 crore as compensation to farmers this year. He added that several people had approached the courts regarding the project but the government is proceeding in accordance with legal provisions and tribunal directions.

The DCM also said the decision taken by the state government regarding the project and compensation for farmers is significant and aims to ensure that development works move forward while protecting the interests of farmers.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar addresses the media in Bagalkot on Saturday | EXPRESS

Activist Yogendra Yadav speaks at a national seminar on SIR in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

K'taka should guide country in fight against SIR: Yogendra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

POLITICAL activist and National Coordinator, Bharat Jodo Campaign, Yogendra Yadav on Saturday said Karnataka, which in many ways has been a beacon for the country, will also be the guide in the fight against the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral list being carried out by the Election Commission of India (ECI).

"Who is being harmed by the SIR? The poorest, the migrant workers; if they migrate for work, their names are not there, they have been removed from their native places. Anytime tomorrow, you can say that you are not a citizen of this country. More than two crore people have already been thrown out of the voter list. Now it is the turn of Karnataka and others. When all this is over, about ten crore voters will have been thrown out," he said at a seminar on 'SIR: What has happened in 13 states? What needs to be done in Karnataka?' organised by the Jagruta Karnataka Sangathan.

"Some people say all these ten crore people are not anti-BJP. When the bottom ten crore of the country is removed, 6 out of 10 of them will be anti-BJP. Even if the BJP loses a small amount of votes in this, the entire foundation of the rest will collapse, thus the party will benefit. Only people of this country can do something now. Who are the BLOs? school teachers, anganwadi workers, they should be made aware of this. Care should be taken that objections do not come from outsiders," he said.

He advised that citizens must be alert for the next few months which will be a test of universal suffrage. "After India's glorious freedom movement, we got universal suffrage equally for everyone. I, the prime minister, Ambani-Adani all have one vote. But, we are going to lose it," he said.

He remarked that Karnataka is one of the most aware states in India and a beacon for the country in social justice.

Leadership issue: subtle assertion vs reward for work

EARLIER this week, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar completed six years in office as the state Congress president – an eventful tenure that witnessed Congress's return to power in May 2023 after a dismal performance in successive preceding elections. The big question haunting his followers is whether he gets his due for turning around the Congress's fortunes in Karnataka. Many in the party feel the decision will be largely guided by a combination of factors directly linked to the party's prospects in the 2028 assembly elections, while contributions to its victory in the last election could also be taken into account.

The Congress high command's reluctance to publicly take an unambiguous stand has allowed the uncertainty to linger on. It has turned out to be the Achilles's heel for the party that won a thumping majority almost three years ago. It also often gives an impression that the party's tallest mass leader and the state's longest-serving Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is on shaky ground, unsure of his tenure. Shivakumar, the claimant for the top post, along with his supporters, is equally unsure of his prospects.

The debate over leadership change is a recurring issue, much to the chagrin of Congress leaders. The CM and the DyCM have long stated that they would abide by the high command's decision; the latter is playing on the back foot, wary of the consequences of its decisions.

However, party leaders feel that they cannot afford to allow the issue to persist after elections in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Assam, West Bengal, and Puducherry conclude in around two months. Also, in May, the Congress government in Karnataka would complete three years. Meanwhile, there is a demand within the party for a major reshuffle in the cabinet, and that cannot happen unless the high command takes a stand on the change of guard. First-time MLAs have written to the high command with a request to consider five of them for ministerial berths. Senior legislators are also seeking an opportunity to be a part of the cabinet.

Going forward, not taking a decision may no longer be viable for the party if it is focussed on its prospects in the next elections, rather than being wary of the consequences of its decision. The high command may have its strategy, but the challenge is executing it on the ground. It could get more complicated as the government enters the final stretch of its five-year tenure.

As things stand, Siddaramaiah seems to enjoy the support of the majority of his party MLAs. For them, the AHINDA (Kannada acronym for minorities, backward classes, and Dalits) factor that the CM and his supporters bring to the table is crucial for elections. However, his government's handling of the issue of internal reservation among the Scheduled Castes is facing flak. It won't be easy for the government to manoeuvre itself without antagonising any sections of the Scheduled Castes.

Be that as it may, politically, Siddaramaiah is in no mood to hang up his gloves and he keeps subtly asserting himself. His remarks at his assembly constituency Varuna in Mysuru district on Friday indicate that he is in for a long haul.

In Varuna, the CM declared that "in over four decades of political life, I have seen many victories and defeats, but I have never forgotten public service. I will remain dedicated to serving the people until my very last breath." Two days before that, in his message congratulating Shivakumar on completing six years as state Congress president, Siddaramaiah mentioned the Deputy CM having a bright political future and their collective desire to bring the party to power again in the 2028 polls.

It's the Siddaramaiah-Shivakumar combination that worked for Congress in the last elections, and any decision would primarily be based on its objective to repeat the same in the next assembly polls. While the CM has the backing of MLAs, Shivakumar is more popular among party cadres.

The debate keeps resurfacing, exposing the Congress to the opposition's criticism for failing to end the uncertainty despite winning a thumping majority. On his part, Shivakumar seems to be focussed on doing what he is good at: the party's go-to leader in times of crisis. Currently, he is hosting Congress MLAs from Odisha ahead of the Rajya Sabha polls to prevent them from being approached by opposition parties. He had done it during Ahmed Patel's RS polls in 2017 and before that, when the Congress government headed by Vilas Rao Deshmukh faced a crisis in Maharashtra.

Shivakumar says, "Where there is work, there is reward." Is the Congress high command taking note of it?

Panel nod to ₹4,824-crore investment, to create 14,525 jobs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE 158th State Level Single Window Approval Committee meeting approved an investment of Rs 4,824.31 crore for 37 new industries and two additional investment projects across 13 districts, including Vijayapura, Bagalkot, Chitradurga, Kolar and Ramanagara.

Industries Minister MB Patil said the approved projects in sectors such as IT infrastructure, sugar manufacturing, technical textiles, compressed biogas, aerospace, jewellery production, electronics, software and five-star hotel construction will generate 14,525 new employment opportunities in the state.

MAJOR PROJECTS APPROVED

- **₹494.65 cr:** Bagmane Constructions Pvt Ltd (IT infrastructure development)
- **₹443.50 cr:** Karnataka Bangaru Sugars Pvt Ltd (sugar factory investment)
- **₹376 cr:** Kleine Pax Ltd (technical textile unit)
- **₹300 cr:** Trishul Buildtech and Infrastructure Pvt Ltd (five-star hotel project)
- **₹257.77 cr:** Troult Grass Pvt Ltd (compressed gas unit in Mudhol)
- **₹250 cr:** Tsuyo Manufacturing Pvt Ltd (EV motor and controller manufacturing unit)

SPIRITUAL QUEST

Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara being felicitated by Sri Siddalinga Swami at Siddaganga Mutt in Tumakuru on Saturday. During his visit, Parameshwara also offered prayers at the 'gadduge' (tomb) of Sri Shivakumara Swamiji | EXPRESS

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Mansukh Mandaviya and Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy on Saturday laid the foundation stone for a ₹14-crore multi-purpose indoor sports complex in Mandya. The sports complex, under the Khelo India initiative, will be constructed on the University of Agricultural Sciences campus at VC Farm

AMENDMENT ROBS US OF RIGHT TO DETERMINE GENDER: ACTIVISTS

GAYATHRI M KURUP @Bengaluru

TRANSGENDER activists and community leaders have raised concerns over the proposed Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026, saying it could weaken the right of transgender and gender-diverse persons to identify their own gender.

Trans rights activist Akkai Padmashali, appointed to a Supreme Court committee for transgender rights, said the amendment threatens the rights recognised by the Supreme Court in NALSA vs Union of India. "The judgment clearly recognised that every individual has the right to self-determine their gender identity. Taking away that right will push the community backwards after years of struggle," she said.

Activists said the amendment moves towards medical control over gender identity. "Gender identity is about how a person understands one self. It cannot be decided by a medical board or through biological tests," said gender-fluid writer Ritash, adding that requiring certification could create barriers for people who do not undergo medical transition.

Activists criticised the proposal to introduce medical boards and district-level approval for recognising transgender identities. "Earlier, people could declare their gender identity themselves. Now the government wants officials and doctors to decide who is transgender," said trans activist Uma P.

Activists pointed out that the amendment could criminalise and stigmatise the community again. "Instead of implementing the protection promised earlier, the government is trying to restrict who can be recognised as transgender," shared Kumar, a trans activist.

Lawyer Arvind Narrain of People's Union for Civil Liberties (Karnataka) said the amendment raises serious constitutional concerns. According to him, the proposed changes narrow the definition of transgender persons by limiting it to certain socio-cultural identities such as hijra, kinner or aravani and persons with intersex variations. "The amendment excludes people with self-perceived gender identities or gender fluidity, which goes against the core principle of self-identification recognised in the NALSA judgment," he said.

Narrain also criticised the proposal requiring certification from a government-appointed medical board and approval from a district magistrate for legal recognition. "Gender identity cannot be determined by medical authorities. The Supreme Court has already recognised self-identification as a fundamental aspect of dignity and personal autonomy," he said.

Meanwhile, the Karnataka State Gender and Sexuality Minorities Coalition for Convergence warned that the amendment narrows the definition of transgender persons and could place the rights of thousands of people at risk. Activists in Bengaluru said they are holding meetings and planning protests and legal action against the proposed amendment.

Forest brigand Veerappan's daughter Vidyarani meets DCM D K Shivakumar at Wonderla resort at Bidadi near Bengaluru on Friday evening

Bandit Veerappan's daughter meets DKS in Bengaluru

Bengaluru: Deceased forest brigand Veerappan's daughter Vidyarani met DCM D K Shivakumar at Wonderla resort at Bidadi near here when the latter went to meet Odisha Congress MLAs on Friday evening. As she knew that Shivakumar was visiting the resort, Vidyarani was waiting there along with her supporters. As soon as he arrived, she went to him and sought his blessings by gifting a portrait of a deity, according to sources. She tried to hold talks in detail about her intention to visit him. Shivakumar gestured to her that he will speak to her later and went to meet the Odisha MLAs, they added. According to sources, she quit BJP and joined Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK) to contest the upcoming assembly elections in Tamil Nadu. She sought the support of Congress and Shivakumar in this regard. Shivakumar had reportedly played a role in securing the release of Kannada matinee idol Dr Rajkumar who was kidnapped by Veerappan during the tenure of S M Krishna in 2000. **ENS**

Not many takers for BU's Braille centre

RASHMI PATIL @ Bengaluru

THOUGH Bangalore University Jnanabharathi Campus's Braille Resource Centre (BRC) provides all facilities for visually impaired students pursuing degree and PG courses in arts and commerce subjects, not many are using them.

Only 25 students used the facilities at the centre this academic year. The reason for this is lack of awareness among such students and organisations that facilitate their education.

Prof Kumbinarsimhaiah S of the mathematics department, who is in-charge of BRC, said, "The centre formed to help visually impaired students to take up higher education is old. We have introduced various software and smart applications to translate texts for them or even convert them into audio format, besides providing hard copies in braille."

He said, "Kibo, a new tool introduced at the centre, scans and converts printed, handwritten and digital documents into audio, text or braille. The centre has Duxbury software that translates printed material into braille for reading. But only a few students used this software. This is because the students are provided with scribes during exams. They prefer using software that converts texts into audio. They hear and learn through audio and later tell those points to the scribes who write exams for them."

These facilities at the centre can also be used by students from other colleges affiliated to Bangalore University.

The centre also provides financial aid to visually impaired students. Each student receives a scholarship of Rs 1,500 (for PG) and Rs 1,200/- (for UG) per month for 10 months, paid in one instalment in an academic year. The hostel facility is also free for them.

Prof Kumbinarsimhaiah said, "The centre provided this financial assistance to 86 students last year. This year, we have received applications from 110 students."

The university also works with NGOs such as National Federation of the Blind (NFB), Samarthanam Trust and ENABLE INDIA to raise awareness among students to use the facilities at the centre and seek employment through these organisations after graduation.

Call for zero GST on induction cooking systems to boost clean energy adoption

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

INDUSTRIES have called upon the Union government to introduce zero GST on induction cooking equipment to accelerate the adoption of clean and energy-efficient cooking technologies across India. SN Chandra Mouli, Director of Lorman Kitchen Equipments Pvt Ltd, has urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to introduce zero GST on induction cooking equipment. "Induction systems are eco-friendly and energy efficient, which can help reduce the import of fossil fuels. If GST is reduced or even zero-rated, it will encourage more consumers to adopt the technology," he said.

At present, induction cooking equipment attracts 18 per cent GST, which Mouli said makes the technology less affordable for many households and commercial establishments. Removing or significantly lowering the tax would make induction systems more accessible and encourage wider adoption. He noted that induction technology converts a higher proportion of electrical energy directly into heat compared to conventional cooking methods, enabling faster cooking and reducing energy wastage. The absence of open flames also improves kitchen safety by lowering the risk of gas leaks and fire hazards.

According to Mouli, induction cooking systems are particularly suitable for homes, high-rise apartments, hostels, hospitals and institutional kitchens. He added that reducing GST could also encourage hotels, restaurants and cloud kitchens to shift to induction systems and lower their operational energy costs.

A supportive tax structure, he said, would also promote domestic manufacturing of induction cooking equipment while advancing environmentally sustainable cooking practices.

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Refer **The Madras Regimental Centre (MRC),** Wellington, **Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)** Enrollment Advertisement published on **15 February 2026**

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INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE TAX RECOVERY OFFICER, KOZHIKODE
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AUCTION NOTICE

The share of Shri Alikkutty alias Bava in the immovable property as per document 1648/1978 of Codacal SRO, in Survey No. 226/12/12 of Mangalam Village, Tirur, Malappuram attached by the Income Tax Department on 23.03.2018 will be sold by public auction **on 25 March 2026** for recovery of the certificate debt and cost of Rs. 3,46,55,259/- (Rs. Three Crore Forty Six Lakh Fifty Five Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Nine only) due as on 27.02.2026 for the A.Y 2008-09 (Certificate TR1/TIR/2016-17 dated 28.06.2016), from Shri Alikkutty alias Bava (PANBXBPA1408F), Kanhikoth House, Kacheriparambil, Mangalam Post, Tirur.

The intended bidders may contact **Shri Shyju Joseph, Tax Recovery Inspector (Mobile No. 8547001049)** on all working days till 24th March 2026 between 10.00 AM to 4.00 PM for details of auction.

Given under my hand and seal of this office on 13 March 2026

A Muraleedharan
Tax Recovery Officer

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Last date and time for submission of e-Tender through online	15.04.2026 up to 15:00 Hrs
Online Bid opening date and time	16.04.2026 at 15:30 Hrs
Period of completion	As specified in clause 2.1 V of Section 2 of tender.
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Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER

XPRESS FOCUS

Brewing More Than Just Tea: Shivarajkumar H and the Purpose-Driven Rise of Malgudi

For Shivarajkumar H, Founder and CEO of ShriSaanvi Brewed Aromas Pvt Ltd, tea has never been just a beverage. It is memory, rhythm, and reassurance. Born into a rural milieu where life unfolded at a measured pace and every rupee mattered, his early years shaped a deep understanding of effort, dignity of labour, and collective progress. The simplicity of village life also planted in him an instinctive respect for natural processes, something that would later define his entrepreneurial philosophy.

Moving to Bengaluru for education and employment, Shivarajkumar carried with him the discipline of his upbringing and the hunger to build something of his own. The city offered opportunity, but also revealed the anxieties of migrant youth searching for stability. These contrasts stayed with him, quietly informing the choices he would make in the years ahead.

Nethra Huggi with her husband Shivarajkumar H

Corporate Discipline and the Entrepreneurial Spark

Before entrepreneurship beckoned, Shivarajkumar spent formative years in the corporate sector, including a stint with Toyota. The experience introduced him to Japanese work culture, where systems, standardisation, and continuous improvement are not buzzwords but daily practice. Processes mattered. Discipline mattered. Consistency mattered.

Yet, like many salaried professionals, he began to sense the ceiling that fixed income imposes on aspiration. Incremental growth could not match the scale of effort he was willing to invest. More importantly, the corporate structure left little room to directly impact the lives of others. The desire to create value beyond personal advancement grew stronger, eventually outweighing the comfort of a stable job.

The Birth of Malgudi Amrutha Chaha

In April 2021, Shivarajkumar took a decisive leap by launching Malgudi Amrutha Chaha with a single stall at Annapurneshwari Nagar on Ullal Main Road, Bengaluru. The idea was simple. Serve tea the way it was meant to be prepared, rooted in traditional Indian cooking science, free from chemical shortcuts, and accessible to everyone.

Tea, he believed, could be both affordable and wholesome if prepared with integrity. Drawing inspiration from traditional methods that use controlled temperature, precise timing, and natural ingredients, Malgudi's approach treated tea as a craft rather than a commodity. Premium tea powder, sulphur-free sugar, natural condiments, and carefully defined preparation schedules became non-negotiables.

Sourcing with Integrity and Purpose

Quality, for Shivarajkumar, begins at the source. Malgudi Amrutha Chaha procures tea from the highland regions of Assam, Darjeeling, Bhutan, and Gangtok. These regions, known for altitude-driven flavour and yield, ensure consistency in taste, aroma, and strength.

Equally important is Malgudi's commitment to farmers and local vendors. By procuring jaggery, sugar, ginger, spices, and milk directly, the enterprise strengthens rural supply chains. Daily consumption of thousands of litres of Nandini milk across outlets ensures that the benefits of growth ripple outward to producers, not just end consumers.

Growth Anchored in Systems

What began as a single stall has grown into a network of over 85 outlets within five years. This expansion was not fuelled by aggressive margins or rapid franchising alone, but by a carefully built system. Standard operating procedures govern every stage, from blending and packaging to brewing and serving. Timing, proportions, and hygiene are monitored with precision.

Shivarajkumar often emphasizes that food businesses fail not due to lack of ideas but due to inconsistency. Malgudi's credibility rests on delivering the same taste and experience across locations, every single day. His background in structured manufacturing environments plays a critical role in maintaining this uniformity.

Employment as a Core Mission

At the heart of Malgudi Amrutha Chaha lies a social mission. The venture actively creates employment for rural, uneducated, and underprivileged youth, as well as retired individuals seeking purposeful engagement. For many migrants in Bengaluru, Malgudi outlets offer a dignified livelihood with training, emotional support, and fair practices aligned with HR norms.

Directly, the organisation employs around 25 people. Indirectly, through outlets and supply chains, it supports the livelihoods of over 300 individuals.

Shivarajkumar views this not as charity, but as shared growth. When people work with ownership, the enterprise grows stronger.

Inspired by a Cultural Icon

A significant influence in Shivarajkumar's life has been legendary Kannada actor and social thinker Shankar Nag. His words, "There is a lot of time to sleep after death. Achieve when you are awake," resonate deeply within Malgudi's ethos. The name itself evokes old Bengaluru neighbourhoods and a sense of cultural continuity.

For Shivarajkumar, inspiration is not about idolisation, but about action. Building something meaningful, contributing to society, and staying rooted while growing outward are principles he actively practices.

A Family Enterprise with Shared Responsibility

Behind the brand stands a family deeply involved in its functioning. His wife, Mrs. Nethra Huggi, plays a central role in production and quality control. Their partnership ensures that systems are not just designed, but lived daily. With shared responsibility, Malgudi continues to refine processes and strengthen its foundation.

Looking Ahead

Guided by the five Ps of Product, Place, Price, Promotion, and Passion, and anchored by four pillars of vendor development, ownership, franchisee empowerment, and customer satisfaction, Shivarajkumar envisions steady, inclusive growth. His ambition is not domination, but sustainability. From rural beginnings to urban enterprise, Shivarajkumar H's journey is a testament to how tradition, discipline, and purpose can brew success, one cup at a time. **For more informaiion, contact Shivarajkumar H at 90087 30992**

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Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda on Saturday said that as directed by the Supreme Court of India, district-level special investigation teams will be constituted to identify reserved forest land and revenue land. He said the state government has taken up the long-pending issue, as it has been causing hardships, particularly to farmers

JOSHI ADMITS TO COMMERCIAL LPG SHORTAGE

Union minister says the country has been effectively managing global energy crisis

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hubballi

UNION Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi on Saturday admitted that the short supply of commercial LPG cylinders is still a matter of concern, but said that the supply has not dried up yet. He said the country has been effectively managing the global energy crisis and assured the citizens that there is no shortage of petroleum products or domestic LPG.

Speaking to the media in Hubballi on Saturday, Joshi lashed out at the Opposition for creating panic among the public. He said that although detailed information had already been presented in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha by Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, the Opposition parties were spreading misinformation during a time of global uncertainty. In a sarcastic remark on the Leader of Opposition (LOP) in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, he said, "The problem in the country is not LPG, but the LOP."

The current geopolitical situation, including conflicts involving Israel, Hamas and Hezbollah, tensions between China and Taiwan, and rising friction among the United States, Israel and Iran, has created instability across the Middle East and global energy markets. Despite these challenges, India's strategic diplomatic approach has ensured that fuel supplies remain stable within the country, he said. "There is absolutely no problem with petroleum products in India, including petrol, diesel, kerosene and aviation turbine fuel," he said, adding that India's strategic reserves are strong and supply chains remain intact.

Panic buying continues as people queue up at an LPG outlet in Tilak Nagar, Bengaluru, on Saturday | KEVIN NASHON

Joshi said panic buying of LPG cylinders has increased in some regions due to misinformation. To address the surge in demand, authorities have temporarily introduced a 25-day interval between two LPG bookings, with deliveries assured within two to three days.

The BJP leader acknowledged that commercial LPG supply has faced temporary restrictions in some areas because of unusually high booking volumes. However, he said priority is currently being accorded to domestic consumers and essential sectors such as hospitals.

Stating that India has expanded its energy sourcing strategy in recent years, Joshi noted that while the country earlier depended on 22 or 23 sources for crude oil, that number has now increased to nearly 40. India is also sourcing LPG from multiple countries, including Australia, African nations and Canada. India is also procuring shale gas from the US and is planning additional purchases from Russia.

The minister said Iran has also allowed passage for shipments bound for India despite regional tensions, and several cargo vessels have already arrived. He added that domestic production of energy resources has increased by nearly 28% and may rise further.

Responding to questions from reporters about shortages of commercial LPG in some cities of Karnataka, the leader admitted that hotels and businesses may face temporary difficulties but said domestic consumers remain the government's top priority. He added that commercial supplies are being regulated due to panic bookings, and essential services like hospitals are receiving priority distribution. "There is no need for the public to panic. The government will ensure timely LPG supply across the country," he said.

CENTRE SUPPLIES LPG, STATE ONLY DISTRIBUTES: CM

Bagalkot: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday said the supply of LPG cylinders is the responsibility of the Government of India and the state government will distribute them once they are provided by the Centre. Speaking to the media before participating in the foundation laying ceremony of a new government medical college building in Bagalkot, he said Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Minister KH Muniyappa has already held two meetings on this issue and has written to the Centre requesting measures to address the shortage of commercial LPG cylinders.

GAS AGENCY LANDS IN TROUBLE FOR ILLEGAL REFILLING

Bengaluru: Food and Civil supplies Minister KH Muniyappa has instructed to take appropriate legal action if domestic cylinders are used for commercial purposes. Accordingly, 45 cylinders in Peenya, 209 in Chikkajala, three in Shivamogga, 46 in Davanagere and 13 in Yadgir district faced actions under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the cylinders were seized. Similarly, a case was registered against a gas agency shop in KGF, Kolar, for conducting illegal refills. As per the Central Government guidelines, 20% of the total cylinders for commercial use will be distributed to hospitals, schools, educational institutions, airports, railway stations, bus stands, canteens, important temples for distribution of prasada and commercial use cylinders will be distributed on priority to government offices/old age homes, important private sector offices. A total of 3,86,363 cylinders of 14.2 kg for domestic use and 6,371 cylinders for commercial use were distributed across the state on Saturday.

Piped gas still a distant dream

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

CITIZENS will have to wait for a long time to get piped gas at their doorstep in Bengaluru. The reasons are many. Primarily, there is no consolidated underground infrastructure and utility map of the entire city or even wardwise. There is also no space available alongside roads and footpaths to dig and lay pipelines. Further, while laying concrete white topped roads or even black topped roads under the Smart City project, no space has been left for laying the gas pipelines.

It is a government of India mandate that under the Smart City project, cities should have piped gas supply. It is being well executed in Mumbai and Delhi but not in Bengaluru, despite directions from the Supreme Court and the High Court.

According to data from the special desk created in the Urban Development Department, monitored by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) for executing the City Gas Distribution project in Karnataka, connections have been laid for 5.77 lakh households, but gas is being supplied to only 3.5 lakh households in the state. In Bengaluru, infrastructure has been laid for 3.5 lakh households but supply is provided to only 1.2 lakh households.

"We have not been able to lay the last mile connectivity pipes for households, thus there is a gap of around 2.5 lakh houses. Land acquisition is a major hassle. In old areas of Bengaluru, pipes cannot be laid because of lack of space. The work is in progress in newer areas. But in areas where road works have been completed, the mandated gap has not been maintained for the pipelines. There is a lot of red-tapism at the level of executive engineers while giving permissions," said an official from the special desk.

Officials from the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) said, ducts have been created along smart city roads and newly laid roads which can be adequately used for all public utility works. But officials in Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), one of the eight listed agencies implementing the piped gas project in Bengaluru,

said, "Gas pipelines are made of steel. They cannot be bent and passed through small ducts. Dedicated long stretches are needed for laying the pipelines. Lines have been laid on the city outskirts, but many houses are not connected. The government failed to make adequate provisions."

In December 2026, the Government of India notified the Policy for Development of Natural Gas Pipelines and City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks. In Karnataka, the project started in 2015 when the first gas agency was authorised for connection and supply. The last agency was authorised in 2022.

The Karnataka government also mandated that city and town master plans should include the gas distribution network, should have provision of CNG stations and ensure PNG infrastructure while giving building plan approvals. This was listed in the Karnataka State Policy for the Development of City Gas Distribution Network, 2023. However, many engineers in the GBA and the five city corporations expressed obliviousness. "I am not aware of this. It was not discussed in the recently held revised master plan project meeting. We will look into it," said a senior GBA engineer who did not wish to be named.

KEEP WATCH ON ILLEGAL TREE FELLING: KHANDRE

Karwar: Anticipating a surge in illegal tree felling on the pretext of firewood gathering, Minister for Forest, Ecology and Environment Ishwar Khandre has instructed the forest department staff to be alert about illegal tree felling in the forest areas. The order follows a letter the minister has received from wildlife enthusiast Giridhar Kulkarni, who appealed to him to increase patrolling in forest areas to prevent the illegal felling of trees in the wake of LPG scarcity. He said that the people living in rural areas and on the fringes of the forests may temporarily shift to firewood for cooking. The resultant deforestation may increase man-animal conflict, he said. The forest minister, in his letter dated March 12, 2026, has instructed the department to ensure that there is no felling in not just forests but also on government lands where trees have been planted. "It is the duty of the officers in-charge to prevent felling. The officers concerned in all ranges will be held responsible if there is any plunder of the green treasure," says the letter, a copy of which is available with TNIE. **ENS**

EXPRESS READ

Five held for forging signatures of DC, ADC

CHITRADURGA: Six employees of the urban development cell in Chitradurga have been booked on charges of forging the signatures of the deputy commissioner and additional deputy commissioner and submitting bills worth Rs 15 lakh to the district treasury. Of these, five have been arrested, and the sixth one is absconding. In a complaint lodged at the Chitradurga town police station on Friday, urban development cell deputy director Reshma Hangal said the six persons made fake bills in the name of one VMH Enterprises, using forged signatures. The forgery came to light when the deputy director of the treasury department suspected an anomaly and informed the deputy commissioner's office. **ENS**

Bamul chief seeks PM's help against Re 1 milk offer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

BENGALURU Milk Union Ltd (Bamul) president and former Bengaluru Rural MP DK Suresh on Saturday wrote Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking his intervention into predatory pricing of milk by quick commerce platforms and its impact on dairy farmers and cooperative institutions.

Suresh brought to PM's attention a recent campaign by Flipkart, advertising milk at Re 1 for half litre as part of a customer acquisition campaign. Re 1 for half-litre is significantly below the economic cost of procurement, processing, packaging, transportation, cold-chain management and retail distribution of milk, he said. "We request the Government of India to examine this issue from the broader perspective of protecting the livelihoods of farmers and small retailers who form the backbone of India's rural and local economies," he said.

Suresh also wrote to the chairperson of the Competition Commission of India, Ravneet Kaur, to investigate the deep discounting practices in sale of milk and other farmer produced essential commodities by quick commerce platforms.

FESTIVE RUSH

KSRTC deploys 2,000 extra buses for Ugadi, Eid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KARNATAKA State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) will operate 2,000 additional buses across Karnataka and neighbouring states to manage the expected surge in passenger traffic during Ugadi on March 19 and Ramzan on March 21.

KSRTC said, the special services will run on March 18, 19 and 20, in addition to existing scheduled services, to facilitate travel from the city to various destinations. Return services from several intra- and inter-state locations to Bengaluru will be operated on March 22.

The corporation announced fare incentives to encourage advance booking. A 5% discount will be offered if four or more passengers book tickets together on a single ticket. A 10% discount on return fares when onward and return journey tickets are booked together.

KSRTC said, in addition to the scheduled special operations, extra buses will be added from taluk and district bus stands across its jurisdiction depending on passenger demand during the festival period.

A large number of special buses will depart from Kempegowda Bus Station, to destinations including Dharmastala, Kukke Subramanya, Shivamogga, Hassan, Mangaluru, Kundapura, Sringeri, Horanadu, Davangere, Hubballi, Dharwad, Belagavi, Vijayapura, Gokarna, Sirsi, Karwar, Raichur, Kalaburagi, Ballari, Koppal, Yadgir and Bidar.

Additional buses are added from Mysuru Road Bus Station to Mysuru, Hunsur, Piriyapatna, Virajpet, Kushalanagar and Madikeri.

Services will also connect Bengaluru with inter-state destinations such as Tirupati, Vijayawada and Hyderabad.

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Standard Hai Toh Sahi Hai

The Kerala government has decided to acquire 230 acres of land at a cost of around Rs 810 crore for development activities related to the Vizhinjam International seaport. The decision was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by CM Pinarayi Vijayan on Friday

Ahead of RS polls, BJD & BJP trade charges over 'horse-trading'

Naveen says BJP, RS candidates trying to influence BJD MLAs

Odisha Congress MLAs visit Mysuru Palace on Saturday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bhubaneswar

AS the clock ticks toward the closely-watched Rajya Sabha elections on Monday, political maneuvering and behind-the-scenes activities have intensified with all major parties leaving no stone unturned to keep their flock together or muster additional numbers.

Amid the high stake polls, the BJD accused the BJP of attempting horse-trading to acquire legislators and tilt the balance in the intriguing contest. Speaking to media-persons after a meeting with party MLAs on Saturday, BJD president and leader of Opposition Naveen Patnaik alleged that the BJP and its three Rajya Sabha candidates were trying to influence his legislators.

"Our party MLAs and all of us have just had a meeting with the concerned officers about the process of the upcoming Rajya Sabha elections. The BJP and their three candidates are trying their best to horse-trade, which is an offence to win in this democratic election," Naveen said.

The allegation drew sharp reaction from senior BJP leaders, who accused the BJD chief of making politically-motivated statements. Balasore MP and former Union minister Pratap Chandra Sarangi alleged that it was Naveen himself, who had earlier attempted to lure him through political inducements.

"In the past, Naveen Patnaik tried to buy me and even sent three MLAs with offers but I refused. Today, he talks of horse-trading because he no longer has the capacity to do it," Sarangi said.

Sambalpur MLA Jaynarayan Mishra also hit back saying it was an admission of defeat by the BJD. "Naveen Babu, you were a chief minister and have experience in horse-trading. We are not trading horses, they are voting for us and we are accepting it. Naveen Babu, you have admitted defeat. We appeal to the voters to cast their vote with a clear conscience," Mishra said.

ODISHA CONG MLAs TOUR MYSURU CITY

Bengaluru/Mysuru: Eight Odisha Congress MLAs, who are being 'sheltered' at Wonderla resort in Bidadi near Bengaluru amid apprehensions of horse trading during the March 16 Rajya Sabha polls there, went on a guided tour of Mysuru city amid tight police security on Saturday. They are likely to fly back on Monday to Bhubaneshwar to take part in the polls, according to sources. The group, including Odisha PCC president Bhakta Charan Das and MLAs Dr C S Raazen Ekka, Mangu Khilla, Pabitra Saunta, Ashok Kumar Das, Kadraka Appala Swamy, Nilamadhab Hikaka, Prafulla Chandra Pradhan and Satyajeet Gomango, first visited the Chamundeshwari Temple atop Chamundi Hills where they were felicitated with the traditional Mysuru headgear (peta). They offered prayers to Goddess Chamundeshwari and visited Mysuru Palace. They wound up the tour with a visit to the KRS dam. The group was accompanied by AICC Secretary Mayur Jaikumar and others.

CPM drops 9 sitting MLAs, including Speaker

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ T'Puram

Nine MLAs of the CPM, including state secretary M V Govindan and Speaker A N Shamseer, will not be in the fray this time. Even as the CPM is in the process of finalising its candidates for the upcoming assembly elections, it has now been confirmed that 52 party MLAs, along with three independents, will contest again, while nine have been dropped. All CPM ministers, including Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, will be in the fray.

Besides Govindan (Thaliparamba) and Shamseer (Thalassery), the other seven MLAs who have been dropped include former minister M M Mani (Udumbanchola), Kasaragod district secretary M Rajagopalan (Thrikkaripur), P Nandakumar (Ponnani), K Babu (Nenmara), K D Prasenan (Alathur), Murali Perunelly (Manalur) and M Mukesh (Kollam). The party is set to field fresh faces in 10 of the sitting CPM seats, including Koyilandi where MLA Kanathil Jameela passed away recently.

Seven sitting MLAs were dropped in line with CPM's two-term norm. While Govindan, being the state secretary, chose to stay away, Nandakumar was dropped due to political considerations. In Thaliparamba, instead of Govindan, his wife and senior leader P K Shyamala will be the party's candidate. Shamseer is being replaced by senior leader Karayi Rajan, while V P P Mustafa will contest in Thrikkaripur, currently held by Rajagopalan. CPM secretariat member K K Jayachandran is being fielded in place of 79-year-old Mani, who completed two consecutive terms. Nandakumar, whose candidature from Ponnani had led to major protests in 2021, has been dropped to accommodate M K Sakeer who stepped down as Waqf Board chief a day ago. In Palakkad, Prasenan will be replaced by Palakkad district panchayat president T M Sasi, while former panchayat president K Preman will contest in place of Babu in Nenmara. Notably, former minister C Raveendranath, who was dropped in 2021, has been brought back to contest from Manaloor. In Kollam, the party will field district secretary in-charge S Jayamohan.

CURIOUSITY AFLOAT

A child curiously looks at plastic toys displayed near a boat-shaped waste bin made from recycled plastic bottles at Kozhikode Beach | VINCENT PULICKAL

Summer heat drains lake

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

VILLAGERS said this highlights the growing impact of harsh summer conditions and water scarcity in rural areas. They pointed out that such lakes are vital not only for agriculture but also for small-scale livelihoods like fish farming.

The fish farmer, Patil, has urged the government and authorities to assess the damage and provide him with adequate compensation, as fish death has caused financial hardship for him. Local villagers also appealed to officials to take measures to ensure better water management in village lakes during summer.

Sabari row: Experience teaches tough lesson to CPM

ANIL S @ T'Puram

Taking into consideration 'past experiences and responses of women devotees', the Left government has modified its earlier position favouring women entry to Sabarimala, ahead of the crucial assembly election. Keeping in mind the severe backlash following its decision to implement the SC verdict allowing women of all ages to enter the hill shrine, the state government in its affidavit - submitted before the Supreme Court on Saturday - stopped short of making any direct statement either favouring or opposing women entry.

In its response to the Apex Court's queries, the government referred to its 2007 affidavit and stated that opinions of social reformers and religious scholars should be taken to arrive at a decision. Apparently referring to the severe backlash in the polls and state-wide protests, the government made it explicitly clear that "previous experience in the matter of Sabarimala shrine and the responses of devotees including women would support" its submission.

Responding to the SC query on scope and extent of judicial review with regard to the religious practice, the state said: "Any judicial review of any religious practice followed for so many years and connected with the beliefs and values accepted by the people must be after wide consultations with, and after soliciting views of eminent religious scholars and reputed social reformers of that religion."

Notably the affidavit did not stress on the earlier argument that 'nobody should be prohibited from their right to worship'. The Left government came to the decision to take a neutral position after the CPM secretariat felt that the party should take a strategic position in view of the approaching elections. The CPM thus decided not to respond directly to the issue of women entry and shift the responsibility.

To the SC query on whether a person who doesn't belong to a religious denomination can question a practice in that denomination or religious group through a PIL, the government opined that under usual circumstances there's no reason for someone outside the religion to question a practice.

MAJOR ARGUMENTS IN AFFIDAVIT

- Previous experience in the matter of Sabarimala shrine and the response of devotees including women devotees would support the submission.
- Any judicial review into any religious practice followed for so many years must be after consultation with eminent religious scholars and reputed social reformers of that religion.
- The essentiality of a religious practice has to be primarily tested with regard to the tenets of that religion.

Man injects HIV+ blood into woman after marriage called off, arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

A 24-year-old HIV-positive man was arrested on charges of attempted murder after he allegedly injected his own blood into a 24-year-old woman at her residence in Annojiguda for refusing to marry him. The incident, which police say was preplanned, occurred on March 11 when the woman was alone at home.

Based on a complaint by the victim's father, Pocharam IT Corridor police registered a case under Section 109 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (attempt to murder), arrested the accused and sent him to judicial remand. The accused, a private employee, and the victim are relatives.

According to investigators, the man bought a syringe from a medical shop and went to the woman's house. Police said he allegedly drew his blood into the syringe and forcibly injected it into her hand.

Within hours, the woman developed severe pain and infection at the injection site.

The skin around the wound reportedly turned dark and she began running a fever.

Two days later, as her condition worsened, family members took her to a hospital in Uppal. During examination, doctors questioned her about the unusual injury on her hand and the fever. She then disclosed that the accused had forcibly injected his blood into her.

Medipally ACP B Mohan Kumar said the accused's family had long been aware of HIV in their household. Both his parents had tested positive for the virus, and his father died of the illness a few years ago. The family, originally from Jangaon, had moved to Hyderabad about 19 years ago.

A few months ago, elders in the two families had discussed a marriage alliance between the accused and the woman. However, because his parents were HIV-positive, both were asked to undergo medical tests.

Police said the tests, conducted about six months ago, showed that the accused was HIV-positive while the woman tested negative. The woman's family subsequently declined the proposal.

Investigators said the accused allegedly concluded that if the woman also contracted HIV, her family might be forced to accept the marriage. Police said the investigation is continuing.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Vairamuthu honoured with Jnanpith

AKSHAY KUMAR @ Chennai

RENOWNED Tamil poet and lyricist **Vairamuthu** has been conferred the 60th Jnanpith Award, India's highest literary honour, for the year 2025. Conferred by the Bharatiya Jnanpith, the award has been presented annually since 1961 to an author for "outstanding contribution to literature".

Vairamuthu is the third Tamil literary luminary to receive the award after PV Akilandam aka Akilan in 1975 and novelist Jayakanthan in 2002.

Vairamuthu, apart from being a lyricist, has penned over 30 books, including poetry collections and novels. Some of his notable literary works are the Sahitya Akademi Award-winning 'Kallikkattu Ithikasam', 'Karuvachchi Kaviyam', 'Poems of Vairamuthu', and 'Moondram Ulagappor'. His works have also been translated into English and Indian languages like Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, and Telugu. He was conferred the Padma Shri in 2003 and the Padma Bhushan in 2014. Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin said Vairamuthu, who has mastered both traditional and modern poetry, truly deserves the honour for his innovations.

100 stray dogs poisoned to death in Telangana

HYDERABAD: In yet another incident of stray dog killings, nearly 100 canines were allegedly "poisoned to death" in Mancherial district, police said. An animal welfare activist, A Goutham, in a complaint to police, stated that on the intervening night of March 7-8 around 100 stray dogs were killed in Kishtapur village. The complainant, working as Cruelty Prevention Manager with the Stray Animal Foundation of India (NGO) accused that the Sarpanch and Gram Panchayath Secretary of Kishtapur village, hired two persons and killed the stray dogs by giving poisonous injections and buried them near a river.

NEW BENCHMARKS

No shortage, TTD laddu output now 8L

B MURALI @ Tirumala

SETTING new benchmarks in its long history, the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has significantly increased the production and sale of the famous Tirupati laddu prasadam, ensuring steady supply to the growing number of devotees visiting the temple.

Contrary to rumours circulating on social media, officials said there is no shortage of laddu prasadam. In fact, the temple administration is currently producing more than seven lakh laddus every day to meet the rising demand.

Production, which stood at about 5.3 lakh laddus on December 28 last year, has steadily increased following a planned expansion by the TTD. According to officials, laddu production reached a record 8.38 lakh on Saturday (March 14). By 4 pm on the same day, which coincided with the weekend and second Saturday holiday, laddu sales had already crossed four lakh. Assistant Executive Officer of the Potu (temple kitchen) Muni Rathnam said production currently ranges between seven lakh and eight lakh laddus daily, and has even crossed 8.3 lakh on some days. He said Additional EO Venkaiah Choudary has been monitoring the process on a daily basis and issuing instructions to scale up production in line with demand. Buffer stocks are also being maintained to avoid shortages.

"With the influx of devotees expected to increase during weekends and the summer season, we are preparing laddus proportionate to the footfall," Muni Rathnam explained.

Additional EO Venkaiah Choudary told *The New Indian Express* that there is no shortage of ghee or other ingredients required for preparing the prasadam.

Devotees continue to receive the laddus at counters without difficulty and have expressed satisfaction over the quality, he said.

AI-driven machines aid quality checks

Modern technology is also playing a key role in maintaining quality standards in the preparation of laddu prasadam. Advanced ingredient sorting machines have been installed in the temple's kitchen store, to remove impurities before the ingredients are used in preparation. Two latest double-chute vision-based colour sorting machines manufactured by Genn Solutions of Coimbatore are currently in operation.

These machines help identify and remove impurities and foreign particles from ingredients used in the preparation of laddus. Each machine has a capacity of 1.5 tonnes per hour and uses AI-based technology to ensure that the ingredients are free from contamination before they are sent to the kitchen.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP

SALE OF VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF NEWSPRINT WASTES

SEALED tenders are invited in the prescribed form for the purchase of various categories of newsprint Wastes viz., Reel End Waste, Cut Waste, Empty Core, White Waste, Print Waste, Jelly and Side Disc Wrapper as detailed in the tender form for the quarter **Apr'2026 to Jun' 2026.**

The tender forms (non-transferable) can be obtained from the Manager of the Branch at: **No.1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru-560001** on payment of Rs.25/- payable through Demand Draft favoring EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS (MADURAI) PRIVATE LTD. or by Cash to be paid at Cash Counter at Branch Offices.

Last date for receipt of sealed tender in our office is **31.03.26** till **6.00 p.m.** The tenders received after the due date and time will not be entertained.

Operations. Commercial
Express Publications (Madurai) Private Ltd.,
Express Gardens,
29 Second Main Road,
Industrial Estate, Ambattur,
Chennai-600058.
Phone : 23457601, Fax : 23457619/20
Date : 15.03.2026

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP

SALE OF USED ALUMINIUM CTP PLATES, EMPTY INK BARRELS AND EMPTY INK / CHEMICAL PLASTIC CONTAINERS

SEALED tenders are invited in the prescribed form for the purchase of **USED ALUMINIUM CTP PLATES, EMPTY INK BARRELS AND EMPTY INK / CHEMICAL PLASTIC CONTAINERS** as detailed in the tender form for the period from **01.04.2026 to 30.06.2026.**

The tender forms (non-transferable) can be obtained from the Centre Manager of the Branch at **:No.1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru-560001** on payment of Rs.25/- payable through Demand Draft favoring EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS (MADURAI) PRIVATE LTD, or by Cash to be paid at Cash Counter at Branch Offices.

Last date for receipt of sealed tender in our office is **31st March 2026** till **6.00 p.m.** The tenders received after the due date and time will not be entertained.

Deputy General Manager (Production),
Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited,
Express Gardens, 29,
II Main Road, Industrial Estate,
Ambattur, Chennai-600058.
Phone : 23457601 Extn. 310, 23457521 (Direct)
Chennai Date : 15.03.2026.

STATE BANK OF INDIA
HSR LAYOUT BRANCH , Sector -2, Opp. NIFT,
27th Main Sector-1,HSR Layout, Bangalore - 560 102,
Karnataka. Ph: 25726890, E-mail : sbi.30495@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE

Under Rule - 8 (1) (For immovable property)

Borrower: SLN Industries , A/c. No: 42453815620

WHEREAS, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, Sector 2 HSR Layout, Bengaluru, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated **23.10.2025,** calling upon the Borrower **M/s. SLN Industries ,** Proprietor :-**Raju N.** S/o. Nagarajappa, Factory @ Shed No. 9 ,Sy No. 8/1C, Nadakerappa Industries Estate, Vishwaneedam Post, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Aerohalli, Bangalore - 560 091. to repay the amount mentioned in the noticebeing **Rs.95,51,185/-** (Rupees Ninety Five Lakhs Fifty One Thousand One Hundred Eighty Five only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub Section 4 of Section 13 of the the Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules 2002 on this **09.03.2026.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount of **Rs. 1,07,65,054/-** (Rupees One Crore Seven Lakhs Sixty Five Thousand Fifty Four only) as on 09.03.2026 and interest from & charges thereon, till the realization of the dues.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF MOVABLE ASSETS

Details of Hypothicated Assets : Current Assets including Stocks in Trade, Receivables, Consumable Stores and Spares and entire current assets of the company mentioned in the documents (Scheule B)

1. Primary Security : Stocks , **Type :** Precision components, automobile spare parts raw materials etc., **Value :** not purchased.

2. Primary Security : Machinery (1), **Type :** SGE Make CNC turning centre model spinner 25/3100 and other accessories:
1. CNC turning maximu D 530MM and turning length 3100 mm
2. Hydraulic servo turte bidirectional turet system.
3. Sylinder bore dia 125 mm through bore capacity
4. Tool Stetio 12 positions
5. BT 40 Turet systematic

and all other mentioned accessories as per tax invoice dated 05.02.2024 by Sri Gajanana Engineereing Works. **Value :** Rs.1,47,85,400.

Place:Bengaluru
Date:09.03.2026

Sd/- Authorised Officer,
STATE BANK OF INDIA
Sector 2, HSR Layout Branch, Bengaluru

Iranian women are like freshwater springs: the more pressure applied, the more force they show once they are freed

Samira Makhmalbaf

BUTTERFLY EFFECT: WAR, PRIVATE CREDIT AND THE NEXT CRISIS

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of *The Gated Republic*, *Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution*, and *Accidental India*
(shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com)

THEORY has it that the flapping of a butterfly's minuscule wings can cause a typhoon halfway around the world. Indeed, the war in West Asia and the choke-up of the Hormuz Strait is driving the private credit bubble into dire straits. The sultans of spin may conjure up word salads, but there is no escaping the spectre of the next global financial crisis.

Context is critical for comprehending the role of persona in leadership. Julius Caesar observed, "*Fingunt simul creduntque*"—very simply, some people can invent a reality and believe in it at the same time; in Francis Bacon's words, the affinity of fiction and belief. US President Donald J Trump can certainly imagine and believe an alternative reality at the same time. The wide chasm between what was intended, what is claimed, what is happening in West Asia is accelerating the transmission of wing speed to precipitate the tornado.

Nothing in the data points makes sense. The war was intended to liberate Iranians. But Iran, defying Trump, replaced one Khamenei with another Khamanei, plausibly more hardline than the father. Trump frequently uses the term 'obliterated' to claim military success. And yet, Iranian projectiles continue to find US aircraft in Saudi Arabia and targets in Israel. In 1936, Robert K Merton defined the "unanticipated consequences of purposive social action". The American sociologist said one of the primary causes was imperious immediacy of interest—pursuing an intended consequence despite being cautioned about grave risks.

Trump came to power on the promise of ensuring affordability. How is he faring? Consider the data points. In less than 10 trading days, over $2 trillion worth of American savings have been wiped out. US mortgage rates—the marker of household economics—shot up from 5.9 percent to 6.4 percent. In a country where mobility is paramount, fuel prices at the pump have jumped 22 percent in less than a month.

A fifth of global oil supplies pass through the blocked Hormuz Strait. On Friday, Saudi Arabia cut its output by 20 percent amid the crisis. Trump had imposed sanctions on Russia to bring peace in Ukraine; this week, he lifted sanctions on Russian crude to quell prices. The war has driven up crude prices from under $70 to over $100 a barrel and has curtailed supplies too.

This week, oil price projections were revised upwards—Goldman Sachs saw oil staying above $100 through March, others saw prices touching $150, and Iran warned prices may touch $200. History doesn't always repeat, but it frequently rhymes. The last time crude prices were in the neighbourhood of $150 was in 2008, also over a fracas between the US and Iran, which had test-fired missiles.

The risk of delinquency and default is not limited to private credit, but can spill over into public markets. In India and across the world, the rise of costs and fall of currencies are challenging repayment and renewal. As countries step in to ease the burden on cost-of-living, debt-to-GDP ratios will spiral up further. The cost of Trump's tariffs is yet to be factored in the calculus. Any crack in the rather opaque private credit market will only perpetuate pain.

The general belief is that the private credit market—now at over $2.1 trillion—is a gated republic where rich people play with richer people's money. The fact is, private credit also depends on debt raised publicly to fund asset creation, and rising rates have pushed down returns and pushed up redemptions. The spectre of higher rates has triggered tremors. Morgan Stanley has limited redemptions, Cliffwater has capped them, Blackstone injected cash to instil confidence, while Blue Owl shifted from fixed to discretionary rates for redemption. Fears also stem from the advent of artificial intelligence and its impact on software giants. For the record, around 25 percent of private credit money is locked in software companies.

The surge of interest rates and rush of investors are reminiscent of the 2000 and 2008 bubble-bursts. Without getting into the weeds of the data swamp, consider the similarities. In 1999, the bet was that money would follow once the infrastructure was built to chase dot-com eyeballs. The infra got built, but the eyeballs stayed stuck. In 2008, financial wizards conjured a recipe of risks to fund a real estate boom. Meanwhile, crude at $147 pushed inflation and interest rates higher, shattering notions.

The saga in 2026 is once again about the gap between hope and reality. For a while, tech companies—asset-light and cash-rich—were described as growth stocks and got high valuations. In 2026, these tech stocks are the biggest borrowers, with around $600 billion to be raised by the Magnificent Seven groupies betting on AI infra. That would make them asset-heavy and cash-poor. Would the valuations hold? And what would happen to the debt? What happens indeed if the rates ratchet up following bust-ups?

The sense of *déja vu* doesn't take a pause. Consider the analogues. In 2008, a global financial crisis was triggered as higher inflation pushed out rate cuts. What is the story in 2026? The choking of the strait disrupting supply chains across sectors, driving up inflation. Trump's desire for a rate cut is fading into the future. J P Morgan CEO Jamie Dimon famously said if there is one cockroach there will be others. The roach reviews have thrown up many and credit markets are frothing with fear. Someday, folks may well sing along with Mark Knopfler: "We're fools to make war / On our brothers in arms."

THE WINNERS AND LOSERS OF WAR

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA
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Follow him on X @PrabhuChawla

IN the volatile cauldron of West Asia, conflicts seldom stay confined to battlefields. Their tremors reverberate through the veins of global commerce, oil pipelines, stock tickers and the quiet ledgers of households every day. The ongoing maelstrom pitting Iran against the US and Israel exemplifies this ruthless alchemy. It has transmuted geopolitical strife into an economic cataclysm that has spared no corner of the world. This war has already lasted for two relentless weeks. What began as a surgical campaign to neutralise Iran's nuclear threshold and ballistic-missile infrastructure has metastasised into a regional inferno. Ironically, while there are few avaricious gainers in this senseless war, citizens of over a dozen nations who are not a part of the war are the worst losers.

Tehran's retaliation has been ferocious but asymmetric. The human cost, however, is dwarfed by the economic haemorrhage. Credible assessments by credible researchers place the daily cost at approximately $1.8 billion. Two weeks have already consumed more than $23 billion in direct military outlays alone. The conflict has cleaved the world into stark, unforgiving blocs. And no one is interested in halting the war. Why?

Conspicuous by their absence from any serious mediation effort are the two Asian giants—China and India—whose silence is as eloquent as it is self-serving. Beijing's calculus is ruthlessly transactional. As Iran's largest oil customer and a major investor in the Belt and Road corridor through Chabahar and Gwadar, Beijing cannot afford Tehran's collapse. Yet, it also cannot risk a rupture with Washington that would torpedo its $600-billion annual trade with the US or endanger its Gulf energy imports. India's abstention is more paradoxical and more painful. New Delhi is the world's third-largest oil importer and was the largest buyer of Iranian crude before the sanctions were tightened. At the same time, India maintains a robust defence partnership with Israel.

Inexplicably, the Modi-led BJP government has offered little beyond generic calls for "de-escalation" and "dialogue". Why? Domestic political compulsions, with assembly elections looming in key states and inflation already a flashpoint, mean any high-profile diplomatic gamble risks being painted as a weakness. Strategic realism, which Indian analysts privately calculate, says that a prolonged bleeding of Iran serves to keep Pakistan's western neighbour distracted and reduces Chinese influence in the Gulf. Finally, the ministry of external affairs lacks the bandwidth and institutional framework for a sustained shuttle between Tehran, Riyadh and Washington.

AP

While Indian diplomats have quietly conveyed concerns to their American and Israeli counterparts, no public peace initiative like the 1991 Gulf War mediation or the 2003 Iraq outreach has materialised. Consequently, India is suffering the most profound economic wounds. It has opted for the comfort of strategic and diplomatic ambiguity over the risks of leadership. The first tremor of such a war is always felt in energy markets like India's. This volatility favours a few while punishing many. Oil titans like Saudi Arabia, the UAE and their Gulf brethren revel in the windfall as their coffers swell with each price spike. Yet, for nations shackled to imports, the sting is profound and immediate. India, a colossus of energy hunger, embodies this peril.

Devouring over 80 percent of its crude from abroad, the nation shudders under even modest surges. A mere $10 uptick per barrel inflates India's yearly import tab by $15-20 billion; at $100 a barrel, the haemorrhage could surpass $25 billion in a single fiscal cycle, straining reserves, widening the current-account deficit and igniting inflationary fires that would scorch the rupee and erode foreign-exchange buffers painstakingly rebuilt since 2013. The financial tempest swept in swiftly. Market capitalisation in India evaporated by nearly ₹16 lakh crore in the initial panic sell-off. The echoes resounded globally: Germany's DAX, France's CAC and Hong Kong's Hang Seng plunged as capital fled to havens like gold and energy equities.

Amid this wreckage, a grotesque irony emerges in the war economy. While vast swaths of industry bleed, select empires thrive on the carnage. The defence behemoths stand as undisputed victors in this grim pageant. Lockheed Martin, RTX, Northrop Grumman and BAE Systems furnish arsenals with their precision munitions, stealth fighters and drone swarms now consumed at prodigious rates. As US and Israeli strikes continue to pulverise Iranian targets, these firms harvest the spoils. Lockheed Martin's shares have soared from $470 to around $650 over the past year, ballooning its valuation by $40 billion. RTX surged 5 percent amid the escalation, tacking on $6-7 billion, while Northrop and BAE mirrored these multibillion-dollar windfalls. Collectively, these titans have amassed $50-60 billion in added market heft as the skies darkened over Iran. Each day of conflict is adding roughly $300-400 million to their combined market cap. Energy conglomerates join in the feast. ExxonMobil and Chevron reap fatter margins from elevated crude, while Saudi Aramco, valued at almost a staggering $2 trillion, accrues billions in surplus with every barrel's ascent.

Yet, these gains exact a toll from the broader tapestry of global enterprise. Air travellers are bearing the brunt all over. Tourism is wilting under the pall of instability as investors shun ventures in shadowed regions. But the cruellest lash falls upon ordinary hearths. Soaring oil begets pricier transportation, electricity and cooking fuel. The Modi government is grappling with subsidy strains while families are confronting rising bills. For India, the nightmare is leading to a yawning current-account chasm, a plummeting rupee and households crushed by exorbitant gas, transport and food costs.

Defence moguls and oil overlords would, meanwhile, continue to amass fortunes. This is the insidious calculus of conflict. It's a grand redistribution where arms peddlers and energy emperors ascend, while consumers and import-reliant entities like India descend into penury. The winners of this war are already identified. They are the US-Israeli strategic axis that has achieved operational dominance, the defence-industrial complex that has added tens of billions to its valuation, and the oil-exporting monarchies whose revenues have surged.

If the war grinds on unchecked for another month, it has serious implications for India, which is dreaming of a $5-trillion economy by 2027. For us, this conflict is not a distant headline, but a dagger at the heart of our ambitions. India just can't afford to be an accidental and hapless victim of a war in which it hasn't fired a bullet, leave alone a bomb.

DEFYING AI WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM POETRY

OPINION

GEETHA RAVICHANDRAN
Former bureaucrat and author of *The Spell of the Rain Tree*

MRINANK Sharma, head of safety at Anthropic, recently quit expressing concern over developments in artificial intelligence, stating he would instead pursue poetry. Now, poetry is an interesting choice in the age of disruption. History shows that, on several occasions, poets themselves were the original disruptors. Across cultures, poetry gave rise to archetypes and narratives that captured the imagination of the people.

Today, in the age of AI, writing poetry and leveraging metaphors allow a resurgence of what is essentially human. With the use of large language models, plagiarism and ghost-writing is enabled at the flick of a finger. At such a time, creative originality is a refreshing act of assertion, a statement of purpose. Poetry, after all, calls for a deeper engagement with language and an understanding of nuance and context, something largely beyond the scope of AI systems.

Every language has evolved through cross-pollination of influences over thousands of years. Their uses as tools of communication and as repositories of knowledge and tradition have distinguished humans from other species. To most of us, the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson describing language as "fossil poetry" may carry little significance. Yet, it's true that the original sense of language was metaphorical and offered a vivid picture into the nature of things. No wonder several traditions attribute the origin of language to the divine.

Another dimension has emerged in the short span since the advent of LLMs. AI has gained fluency in languages ingested as tokens or data points. The processing is based on a system of prompt-based pattern recognition. Even after being trained on a vast amount of texts, AI is not capable of comprehending the meaning of words. It was recently reported that poetic verse has been able to 'jailbreak' AI systems. It could be speculated that this was due to the fact that poetry mostly did not figure in the training data sets. As such, it exposes a fault line in AI systems. Genres of creative writing lend themselves to subjective interpretation and are not mere codes to be cracked.

AI promises to increase productivity and create abundance even while reshaping the workspace and drastically reducing jobs. Areas of work that until now attracted the best young talent may soon become redundant. Many tech leaders have spoken of the importance of humanities in these times of AI dominance. People with training in humanities can contribute to ethics, reduce bias and be better at deciding where AI deployment would add value.

At the same time, concerns over safety have increased manifold especially with the rise of agentic AI. Researchers have observed deceptive, defiant behaviour and AI turning rogue. These are sources of potential conflict. Predictions of AI taking control of critical areas that were once exclusive domains of humans pose an existential threat and induce anxiety. It's similar to the angst people faced during the not-too-distant times of the Covid pandemic.

Literary activity, including poetry, surged during the pandemic as poets explored themes of mortality, inequity, marginalisation and healing. The democratisation of poetry was made possible due to the use of digital platforms. In India, there was a spike in poetry during the pandemic with chat groups, zoom meetings and social media providing newer platforms. Instagram poets who write simple, emotive verses gained mass following. Today, poetry festivals held across India are testimony that the form is here to thrive.

Poets have been the original disruptors in many eras. As reports of artificial intelligence tools tripping over poetry surface, there's hope that the form can remain an assertive corner of creativity ring-fenced from the all-consuming technology

Perhaps, poetry is one area that can be ring-fenced from AI. If there is ever a 'captcha test' designed for poets, AI would not get through the gate when asked to describe core sensory experiences like taste or pain. While AI slop may mimic a poet's voice or output forms resembling poetry, it would be no match for content based on lived experience, which resonates across centuries. Poetry, with its use of metaphor and imagination, has the power to delight, startle and shock. To quote W S Merwin, when writing a poem, "a sequence of words starts giving off what you might describe as a kind of electric charge". It is the process that counts, not merely the product.

Japanese forms like haiku may seem simple and short. AI can indeed generate haiku with a facile confidence, counting the number of syllables and lines. But there's something more to the form. Originally written by Zen masters, it is now being written in many Indian languages too. The haiku sensibility of being mindful fosters attentiveness in an age of infinite iterations. It is an act of discernment. Kala Ramesh, a haiku poet and teacher who mentors a vibrant community of poets in India, says, "The most important tenet of haiku thought is '*fuga no makoto*'. This relates to the truth, sincerity and honesty a poet needs to aim at while writing haiku." When writing becomes a mere performative display, there would not be the slightest trace of this underlying principle.

Even as AI commodifies writing, there is still an option for writers to remain stubbornly rooted in time-tested traditions and rely on their inherent abilities. For, the act of writing is an act of self-discovery. The value of originality and critical thinking in these times cannot be overstated.

(Views are personal)

QUOTE CORNER

It's important to recognise that there has been a struggle for democracy in Iran going on for more than 100 years. But there has been a very explicit effort by those who want to have war to portray the country as if there are no nuances there... Because it's that simplified picture you need if you want to wage war.

Trita Parsi, vice-president of the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft and author of *Losing an Enemy: Obama, Iran and the Triumph of Diplomacy*

Do you draft these petitions at midnight? You people are running PIL shops.

Chief Justice Surya Kant, warning advocates against filing frivolous petitions like one on Jain beliefs of *tamasic* energy in food items

What he has done is in the law. I think if he thinks it's right, it's right. But if you ask me, I would have done it differently.

Salman Ali Agha, Pakistan batter, after Bangladesh's Mehidy Hasan Miraz ran him out while he was trying to hand the ball to the bowler

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Code conflict

Ref: *Societal fault lines raise question of fairness on UCC call* (Mar 14). Our constitutional fathers rightly made the contentious UCC a non-enforceable provision while guaranteeing the freedom of religion. When in 2022 Iranian women were revolting by letting their hair down, Indian Muslims were on the staircase of the Karnataka High Court to allow the wearing of hijab. If a matter as simple as clothing can be so conflicted globally, one must understand the complexity in the codification of a UCC and the gravity in its enforcement. At a time when there are growing calls to remove the word 'secular' from the Preamble, we must be careful that unity is sacrificed at the altar of uniformity.

K S Mohana Murugan, Chennai

Iran outreach

Ref: *Safe passage for India* (Mar 14). India has been robust in maintaining its relationships at multilateral forums. Before oil, US sanctions on Iran created uncertainty over India's investment in Chabahar Port. Now, in 2023, India had supported the expansion of BRICS, which included Iran as a member. Now, Iran has indicated it would allow India-bound fuel ships to pass through the Strait of Hormuz, reflecting the continued goodwill between the countries. It underlines how sustained diplomatic engagement and strategic autonomy help India protect its energy security and maritime interests.

Srishti Singh, email

Eco-tourism needed

Ref: *Boating ban in Nilgiris' Pykara lake* (Mar 14). The excuse given by Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation for polluting Pykara through the use of motorboats shows their lack of responsibility in protecting nature. Encouraging tourism is a lame excuse here. Pages of information have been published about how present and future tourism can be the best opportunity to raise awareness about environmental issues because people usually come with their children, who need to learn about the protection of our lakes, forests and wildlife. Eco-tourism must be practised everywhere.

Komala B, email

War costs

Ref: *Trump says strikes to intensify* (Mar 14). The UN secretary-general has made clear that said the attacks by US and Israel against Iran have pushed the region towards a breaking point and affected many more countries. Since February, at least 1,400 people in Iran and 773 in Lebanon have been killed. There is a global energy crisis and air fares are up. Considering the grave threats posed, Trump must set aside the plan of intensifying the war.

P Victor Selvaraj, Palayamkottai

Illegal intervention

Why should Donald Trump interfere with the internal issues of Iran? The people of Iran should choose their leader, not America. War means devastation. So many innocent school children were killed in just one attack. The people of all countries are suffering the consequences of the war, too. So all countries should try to convince the US and Israel that the only solution is through dialogue.

Banani Chaudhury, email

Fertiliser buffer

Ref: *Govt creates economic stabilisation fund* (Mar 13). Fertiliser supply may become the next crisis if the disruption continues. The Gulf, especially Qatar, is a major urea producer. Rising input costs can reduce yields and push up food prices. Import-dependent countries like India may face higher subsidies and inflation. Diversifying imports and maintaining buffers are essential safeguards right now.

R S Narula, Patiala

Legendary policeman

Ref: *A legend of modern policing* (Mar 14). It's an eloquent homage to the iconic H J Dora, a visionary director general of police in undivided Andhra Pradesh. His forethought and strategies undertaken for decades are now finally succeeding in dissolving left-wing terrorism. Hats off to such a personage.

U Atreya Sarma, Hyderabad

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Shashi Tharoor @ShashiTharoor
Delighted that the Centre has revoked @sonamwangchuck's detention, but 169 days seems to have been an inordinately long time.

Asaduddin Owaisi @asadowaisi
This is becoming a pattern in UP: in one case, Muslims were detained for offering namaz inside a home; in Sambhal, no more than 20 people can pray on private property.

Amit Malviya @amitmalviya
Yet, despite these desperate attempts to obstruct people from reaching the rally, over 10 lakh people have gathered at the Brigade.

Navy comes in aid of LPG tankers

'Shivalik' escorted by Naval ships near Hormuz, expected to arrive in India early next week

JAVARIA RANA @ New Delhi

INDIAN Navy warships have moved into the Gulf of Oman to monitor and escort India-bound merchant vessels as tensions in West Asia disrupt traffic near the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical energy corridors.

Tracking data and satellite imagery shared by OSINT expert Damien Symon show that the Indian-flagged LPG tanker Shivalik is currently sailing under naval escort. "Three Indian Navy warships appear to have moved into the Gulf of Oman, likely to escort merchant vessels amid the tense security situation in the region. Ship-tracking data shows that the Indian-flagged LPG tanker Shivalik (IMO 9356892) is currently under escort," he posted on X.

Navy sources said Indian warships routinely patrol the area under ongoing maritime security missions, including anti-piracy patrols and Operation Sankalp, which ensures safe passage for commercial shipping. However, monitoring has been complicated by electronic interference reported in surrounding waters.

The escort comes as two LPG carriers, Shivalik and Nanda Devi, head toward India after successfully crossing the Strait of Hormuz, which had been disrupted over the past two weeks. Both tankers, owned by the Shipping Corporation of India and chartered by Indian Oil Corporation, are carrying nearly 85,000 metric tonnes of LPG and loaded their cargo at Ras Laffan, Qatar, a major LPG export hub. Sources say the ships are expected to reach Indian ports early next week.

Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Fathali confirmed that Indian vessels have been allowed to transit through the strait, citing historical ties and shared interests., "Yes, we have allowed some ships to pass through Hormuz, but we can't tell how many at this moment. Iran and India have historical relations and common interests. Both countries are supporting each other," he said in New Delhi.

The passage followed diplomatic outreach between New Delhi and Tehran, though details remain undisclosed. The reopening of the strait is crucial for India, which relies heavily on Gulf imports over 90% of its LPG, more than 50% of LNG, and around 40% of crude oil move through Hormuz. With shipments previously stuck at the chokepoint, India has faced supply pressures.

101 medical students from Iran to reach India today

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

AFTER weeks of desperate attempt to reach India from Iran, the first batch of 101 medical students are set to arrive in Mumbai and Delhi on Sunday from Armenia via Dubai. The hiccups in their plan continued till the last minute as the airline cancelled the first flight to Mumbai on Saturday hours before they were to depart from their hotels in Armenia. The students are returning fearing for their safety amid escalating tensions in West Asia.

Indian Embassy officials in Iran have escorted the students up to the bordering Armenia. "The 101 students have boarded FlyDubai flight FZ8124 from Yeravan International Airport at 1.25 pm (local time). They will have a layover at Dubai and depart from there at 5.05 local time on Sunday by two flights. One flight will reach Mumbai at 4.15 am and the other will reach Delhi at 9.55 am," said Dr Mohammed Momin Khan, national vice president of the All India Medical Students Association, who has been co-ordinating with them.

They are part of the 1,000-plus stranded Indian students after over 2,000 departed before the Israel-US attacks on Iran on February 28. A majority of them are from Jammu & Kashmir and were studying at Urmia University of Medical Sciences, Tehran University of Medical Sciences and Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences. Over 50 students, after reaching Delhi, will leave for Jammu & Kashmir by buses on Sunday. "The exact break-up of students coming to Mumbai and Delhi is not clear," Khan added.

Another set of students from Islamic Azad University and Iran University of Medical Sciences have reached Azerbaijan and will come to India.

Centre rules out fertiliser shortage risk for upcoming Kharif season '26

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

DESPITE concerns about potential supply disruptions linked to the ongoing war in West Asia, the government on Saturday said that the country has adequate fertiliser stocks for the upcoming Kharif 2026 cropping season.

Responding to queries on fertiliser availability, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the Department of Fertilizers had already issued a detailed note on the situation.

He added that current inventories were higher compared with last year. "What I can tell you is that India has more than adequate stocks of fertilisers at this point in time, especially for Kharif 2026. Our stocks of urea are more than what they were at this point last year. Our DAP stocks are double of what they were last year. Our NPK stock position is similarly much higher today in comparison to last year."

India is among the world's largest consumers of fertilisers, particularly urea, which is widely used in foodgrain cultivation. Estimates indicate that India consumes about 35–36 million tonnes of urea annually, while domestic production is roughly 28–29 million tonnes, leaving a gap of around seven million tonnes that is met through imports. A significant share of these imports comes from Gulf countries. Around 63% of India's nitrogen fertiliser imports originate from Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

For diammonium phosphate, the Gulf accounts for roughly 32% of imports. These shipments typically move through the Strait of Hormuz, a key global shipping corridor.

Output likely to exceed consumption: Jaiswal

For diammonium phosphate, the Gulf accounts for roughly 32% of imports. These shipments move through the Strait of Hormuz. On domestic production, Jaiswal said output is currently expected to exceed consumption levels as the Rabi season concludes.

Centre not kept farm promises: Rahul

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

STEPPING up attack on the Centre over the India-US trade agreement, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi alleged on Saturday that the government has not honoured its promises to farmers and is prepared to sacrifice India's agriculture for its own interests.

In a social media post, the Leader of Opposition shared a question he raised in the House recently: whether the Centre would announce a minimum support price for crops and whether the trade agreement with the US would change its existing MSP policy.

"In the Lok Sabha, I asked a question: Why has the promise of a statutory MSP—calculated at C2+50 per cent—made to farmers in 2021, not yet been implemented?" Gandhi said the government chose to sidestep his query.

"Evading a direct response, the government merely reiterated its existing MSP policy. The government also admitted to pressuring states to discontinue MSP bonuses—a move it sought to justify, without any logical basis, in the name of national priorities," Gandhi said in his post in Hindi.

The LoP said another critical question is whether the trade agreement with the US speaks of reducing non-trade barriers. "Does this imply an intent to undermine the MSP mechanism and government procurement?" Gandhi asked. The government is evading this question, he claimed. "We will continue to raise our voices -both inside and outside Parliament—to defend farmers' rights and protect the minimum support price," the Congress leader asserted.

'Govt prepared to sacrifice agriculture for on interest'

The government not only refuses to honour the promises made to farmers, but it is also prepared to sacrifice Indian agriculture for the sake of its own interest, Gandhi alleged in his post. "We will continue to raise our voices—both inside and outside Parliament—to defend farmers' rights," he said.

SANJU SAMSON

SAMSON STRIKES, SCRIPTS ALL-NEW KERALAM STORY

GOMESH S

ON the historic night of their T20 World Cup triumph the players were rejoicing in their own inimitable ways at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad last Sunday. Some were dancing, yelling, while some were capturing each of those unforgettable moments in their phones. Some were celebrating with their families too. One person stood out in the melee. Sanju Samson. Perhaps brooding over the turn of events that propelled him to such stardom.

The India opener just bagged the Player of the Tournament award after playing another match-winning innings. He was standing in front of the temporary dias all alone before his wife Charulatha Remesh joined him. Clasped in his hand was the trophy — perhaps as a reminder of all that he had to endure during those dark and dreary days when he was sitting on the bench looking for that opportunity to strike. He was soaking every bit of the beautiful moment, away from the crowd. And why not? He has earned every bit of it.

Sanju was not in the playing XI when the World Cup began. He was struggling with form and the final was the last thing in his mind. But destiny had other plans. The final scene was of composure. This may seem unusual, but for those who know him this is what Sanju as a person is. Quiet and grounded, unassuming yet witty. A person with whom one can relate irrespective of caste, creed and region.

It is not difficult to understand if one follows his background. Fondly known as Chetta, Sanju was born in Vizhinjam, Kerala, a pious christian settlement. His belief in the historic Portuguese church of his village is unflappable. He spent his early years in Delhi before moving back to Kerala to pursue his cricketing ambitions. His biggest influences have been both his father and grandfather. He can speak Hindi, is a fan of Tamil superstar Rajinikanth and looks and behaves like the boy next door in any South Indian household.

What stood apart even during his childhood was his absurdly talented batting. It is something Biju George noticed very early. "I knew he was special, I was 100 per cent sure about that. His first turning point came after an outstanding performance in Under-13 cricket — Kolkata Knight Riders called him for a camp," the childhood coach had told this daily.

Over the next few years,

MANDAR PARDIKAR

Samson was fast-tracked as he moved up the ranks in IPL with Rajasthan Royals and even made his India T20I debut at 20. The next decade, however, was a long agonising wait. Call it bad luck or lack of consistent opportunities or not making the most of it when he could have, Sanju spent years on the sidelines, watching prodigies become stars and stars become legends in Indian cricket. There were years where he excelled at IPL but never got to break into the heavily-crowded India top-order. There were moments where he felt broken, where he thought his time may never come. He tried his best, but in elite sport one fails more than they succeed. Sanju learnt that over the years. Yet, all the while, despite not playing regularly for India, his stardom grew. It seemed inevitable even. It was visible when he captained RR in IPL or even India A in Chennai. Thousands turned up at Chepauk to cheer for Sanju who took pictures with them after the match. They all waited for him to shine on the big stage. This World Cup the statistics reflected his enormous talent. 321 runs in five innings, three match-winning knocks in as many must-win games — from being the star that could not step up, the 31-year-old finally delivered. He still remembers the last time he was in the World Cup winning team. "I had to spend time on the sidelines (in 2024)," he told the official broadcasters after the final.

This time he did not want to be just a secondary fiddle. It was not easy, either. He had kept believing in himself and one man who helped him surmount those troubles was Sachin Tendulkar. His SOS to the legend helped him recover. "I have been in constant touch with Sachin Tendulkar sir. I think when I was outside, sitting outside in Australia, I was not playing a game. So, I thought about, okay, what is the mindset required now? So, I reached out to sir and I had huge, huge, big conversations with him," he said, before adding, "When I was with the 2024 World Cup-winning team in the West Indies, I couldn't play a game. I kept on visualizing. I kept on dreaming. I kept on working. This is exactly what I wanted to do then. And by God's grace, I think today things have turned around. I'm very proud and very happy that I was courageous enough to dream about it," Sanju said.

Tendulkar knows a thing or two about being a player of the tournament without winning a World Cup. Here, Sanju had both as he sat quietly on the podium, watching everyone around him celebrate. He knows no matter what happens from here on, he has earned the respect of the cricketing world and love from 1.4 billion people of this country. For someone who spent years on the sidelines, the hours in the limelight could be eternally fulfilling.

EXPRESS READ

New species of lichen moths discovered

Scientists at the Zoological Survey of India have announced the discovery of two new species of lichen moths, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said on Saturday. "The discovery of Caulocera Hollowayi and Asura Buxa are vital contribution to the documentation of India's moth biodiversity," the minister wrote on X. He said this underscores the necessity of sustained taxonomic efforts in biodiversity hotspots. The findings, published in the international taxonomic journal Zootaxa, document seven new species of lichen.

Univs must focus on innovation: VP

Modern universities must focus on faculty development, innovation, and strong academic collaboration to build a globally competitive education system, Vice President C P Radhakrishnan said on Saturday. Addressing the ninth convocation of the Central University of Himachal Pradesh, he noted that a majority of medal winners were women, calling it a strong reflection of growing women's empowerment and their increasing contribution to the nation. The VP called upon students to dedicate themselves to nation-building.

RAJYA SABHA ELECTIONS

NDA looks to boost leverage and reshape leadership dynamics

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AS elections approach for 37 Rajya Sabha seats on March 16, the ruling National Democratic Alliance is positioned to expand its influence in the Upper House, cashing in on shifts in state-level politics over the past year. Beyond routine vacancies, the contest offers the NDA a chance to consolidate its already comfortable numbers and shape leadership dynamics in key states.

Currently, the Bharatiya Janata Party holds 103 seats, while the NDA's combined tally stands at 133 in the 245-member chamber. Party sources suggest the alliance could secure 21–22 of the 37 seats, potentially pushing its strength closer to 140, a mark that would reinforce its leverage for the remainder of the term.

All eyes are on Bihar, where the state assembly, dominated by the NDA after Nitish Kumar returned to the fold, will elect five members. The NDA has fielded five candidates, two from the BJP, two from the Janata Dal (United), and one from ally Upendra Kushwaha. Nitish Kumar's own bid for the Upper House has sparked speculation about a potential political transition in Bihar, opening space for the BJP to assert greater authority in state government.

"The elections for 37 seats are crucial more for BJP and JD(U) than others, as both have fielded their top leaders—BJP its national president Nitin Nabin and JD(U) its founder and CM Nitish Kumar," said Patna-based analyst R K Verma.

While the NDA enjoys numerical strength in states like Assam, Odisha, Haryana, and Chhattisgarh, cross-voting remains a wildcard, too. Meanwhile, the NDA faces challenges in West Bengal.

The elections also highlight internal shifts, with JD(U) dropping Harivansh Narayan Singh to accommodate Nitish Kumar. With 71 Rajya Sabha seats set to fall vacant between March and November, this cycle of 37 seats could reshape the NDA's Upper House strategy and cement its legislative edge.

37 seats up for grabs

Currently, the BJP holds 103 seats, while the NDA's combined tally stands at 133 in the 245-member chamber. Party sources suggest the alliance could secure 21–22 of the 37 seats, potentially pushing its strength closer to 140, a mark that would reinforce its leverage for the remainder of the term.

Ruling alliance holds meet, new MLAs trained

Senior NDA leaders on Saturday held a meeting with MLAs ahead of Rajya Sabha elections even as Bihar police's Economic Offences Unit (EOU) has been placed on high alert to monitor and prevent potential "horse-trading" in the run up to the RS polls scheduled for March 16. The meeting was held at the residence of Rashtriya Loktantrik Morcha (RLM) leader and former union minister Upendra Kushwaha.

Haryana BJP moves MLAs to private star hotel

With the Rajya Sabha elections slated for March 16, the ruling BJP has moved its MLAs to hotel JW Marriott in Chandigarh. It is learnt that CM Nayab Singh Saini, Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Gujarat Dy CM Harsh Sanghavi, who has been appointed an observer, had also gone to the hotel. Cabinet minister Krishna Bedi was appointed election agent, and minister Ranbir Singh Gangwa and MLA Yogender Rana, counting agents.

'Resort politics' back as Oppn eyes 3 seats in Haryana, Bihar and Odisha

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

WITH the countdown for the Rajya Sabha biennial election beginning, the spotlight has shifted to Odisha, Bihar, and Haryana, which have emerged as key battlegrounds between the ruling NDA and the Opposition alliance for three crucial seats from these states. With fear of horse trading and cross-voting looming large, parties, particularly the Congress, have resorted to 'resort politics' and shifted their MLAs to different states to keep their flock together until polling day.

Out of the 37 seats that are going to polls, 26 candidates have been elected unopposed.

The election for the remaining 11 seats—five in Bihar, four in Odisha, and two in Haryana —would be held on March 16.

The numbers are stacked in favor of the NDA for four seats in Bihar, two in Odisha, and one in Haryana, giving the ruling alliance a comfortable edge. All eyes are on the remaining three seats, where both the Opposition and the NDA are locked in a close contest.

The contest in Haryana has become tighter with three candidates vying for two vacant seats. While Congress has fielded Karmavir Singh Boudh, the BJP has nominated Sanjay Bhatia. The third candidate is contesting as an independent.

In the 90-member assembly, the BJP holds 48 MLAs, Congress 37, two INLD, and three Independents. To win, a candidate needs at least 31 votes. While the Congress has already shifted 32 MLAs to Himachal Pradesh, in Odisha too, the party has moved eight of its MLAs to Karnataka. Odisha is also having a contest for one seat as two candidates, are in the fray.

Bihar is also set for a tight contest, with the RJD fielding its nominee for one of the five vacant seats. In the 243-member Assembly, the Opposition alliance, including the RJD, Congress, and Left parties, commands 35 MLAs. To secure the fifth seat, the Opposition would require the support of all five AIMIM MLAs as well as the lone BSP MLA.

GRAFT CASE

The Anti-Corruption Bureau has arrested a woman official from the ST certificate scrutiny committee for taking ₹2.5 lakh from a man to clear files of his family members in Maharashtra's Thane city.

64 IPS OFFICERS TRANSFERRED IN OVER 2 DOZEN DISTRICTS IN RAJ

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	37	22	Mumbai	30	25
Bhopal	36	22	Panaji	32	24
Jaipur	33	17	Patna	34	21
Amritsar	25	14	Lucknow	33	19
Chennai	31	24	Port Blair	28	27
Kolkata	33	24	Imphal	25	14
Srinagar	10	02	Chandigarh	27	15

Ahead of PM's Kolkata rally, TMC and BJP workers clash in which minister's house damaged • Says everyone should be wary of Oppn party

Modi kicks off BJP campaign to end 'maha jangal raj' in Bengal

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Parivartan Sankalp Sabha rally at the Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata on Saturday, which kick-started the BJP's election campaign in West Bengal. He attacked the Mamata Banerjee's government, saying that "the countdown for the end of 'mahajangalraj' has began in the state."

The political temperature in the state rose ahead of the rally, as, around the time Modi was scheduled to make his address, supporters of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) clashed with those of the BJP at Girish Park, which is hardly three kilometers away from the rally venue. The residence of the TMC heavyweight minister Sashi Panja was allegedly damaged by BJP supporters during the clash.

The prime minister's address lasted for 47 minutes, during which he blamed the ruling TMC for ignoring infiltrations, obstructing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, raising slogans against the Chief Election Commissioner and breaching protocols during President Droupadi Murmu's visit to the state. He also blamed the TMC government for corruption, deteriorating law and order situation, increasing incidents of atrocities against women, including the rape and murder of a woman doctor at the state-run R G Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, unemployment, etc. Modi's rally was organised just a couple of days before the Election Commission is expected to announce the dates for the state Assembly elections on Monday.

PM Narendra Modi with Bengal Assembly LoP Suvendu Adhikari in Kolkata | PTI

Modi said that the TMC wanted to "protect its vote bank of infiltrators", which was the reason for opposing the SIR. He alleged that unchecked illegal immigration under the TMC rule altered the demography of many areas in the state. "The Trinamool making Bengal unsafe due to its appeasement politics for a particular community will finish you. This is not expected from the Trinamool Congress government," he said.

Modi made the safety of women a big issue during his address. Referring to the incidents of sexual harassments of women allegedly by people connected with the TMC in Sandeshkhali and R G Kar Medical College and Hospital, he said, "There will be a sea change in law and order to ensure women safety after the BJP comes to power in Bengal, and this is Modi's guarantee."

He blamed the state government for "protecting" the culprints. He said, "Incident of rape also happened inside a college premises. But, no action was taken and instead the culprits were protected by the state government."

He said that the "TMC hooligans" who had unleashed a threat culture on people are waiting for bad days ahead. "Everything will be taken into account after the BJP comes to power. No one can save the Trinamool Congress. Their days are numbered and they are now at the exit point," he said.

Political analysts feel that Modi's speech focused on crimes against women to woo women voters as a counter to the Banerjee government increasing allowance for them to ₹1,500 from ₹1,000 under the Lakshmir Bhandar scheme ahead of elections.

Meanwhile, during the clash between the TMC and BJP supporters, the police claimed that more than 30 people sustained injuries. Bappaditya Naskar, officer-in-charge of the nearby Bowbazar police station, was also injured during the clash.

After cabinet minister Panja's house was attacked, he said, "It was a preplanned attack by the BJP on our workers. The BJP hooligans, who are mostly from Bihar, did not spare my residence. They pelted it with stones, which damaged windows and doors. I was also injured. Many of our injured party workers took shelter at my residence." Police were deployed outside Panja's house.

In Assam, Modi says Cong trying to use Iran war to create panic in India

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

The Congress was expected to play the role of a responsible political party. However, it failed yet again in carrying out this important duty for the welfare of the country

Narendra Modi, PM

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday attacked the Congress over the prevailing war situation in West Asia, alleging that it is trying hard to make sure there is panic in India.

Addressing a crowd after inaugurating and laying the foundation stones for various development projects at Silchar in election-bound Assam's Barak Valley, Modi said the central government was working with full strength to minimise the impact of the war on the citizens of the country. "The Congress was expected to play the role of a responsible political party. However, it failed yet again in carrying out this important duty for the welfare of the country. The Congress is trying hard to ensure that there is panic in the country and it gets trapped in a difficult situation so the party can go after Modi," the PM said. He further stated that the Congress has no vision for the country, and every citizen in Assam should be wary of the party.

"You have driven the Congress out of your state. Today, every state in the country is teaching the Congress a lesson. The Congress is losing one election after another," Modi told the crowd. The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the Shillong-Silchar High-Speed Corridor, which will be built at a cost of ₹24,000 crore. He said this access-controlled corridor would be the first of its kind in the Northeast, linking Silchar to Mizoram, Manipur, and Tripura and eventually to the vast markets of Southeast Asia.

Modi was confident that this connectivity would immensely boost local industry, agriculture, and tourism. "Barak Valley is going to be connected to a very bright future," he said.

The PM said the BJP followed the mantra of prioritising those who have been left behind in the race for development. He said while border villages were once considered the last villages, his government viewed them as the first villages.

Govt focus on border villages

The PM laid the foundation stone for the Shillong-Silchar high-speed corridor, which will be built at a cost of ₹24,000 crore. He said the BJP followed the mantra of prioritising those who have been left behind. The PM added that his govt views border villages as the first villages

RANCHI DIARY

MUKESH RANJAN
Our correspondent in Jharkhand
mukesh.r@newindianexpress.com

JMM, Cong spar over two seats in the Upper House

With two Rajya Sabha seats set to fall vacant soon, political activity has intensified within the ruling alliance in Jharkhand. The two alliance partners—JMM and Congress—have been making a fresh round of claims. JMM leaders argue that the party's political position in the state has strengthened significantly in recent years, while Congress says that being the second-largest party in the alliance after JMM, the party also has a strong claim over the RS seats. Congress leaders said the party has always prioritised alliance unity and made sacrifices in the past. But this time, Congress has a natural claim to at least one of the two seats and expects similar generosity from JMM.

State police get 1,500 vehicles, 12 new stations

In a major push toward police modernisation and strengthening law and order in the state, CM Hemant Soren on Friday handed over 1,485 modern vehicles to the Jharkhand Police and virtually laid the foundation stone for 12 new police stations. The government has sanctioned 1,255 patrolling vehicles and 1,697 two-wheelers for the state police. In the first phase, the chief minister handed over 636 patrolling vehicles and 849 two-wheelers to various districts and police stations. According to officials, these vehicles will strengthen patrolling, quick response operations, monitoring of sensitive zones, rural surveillance, and crime prevention activities.

Sahibganj set to get waste-to-wonder park

A unique park is being developed in Sahibganj using scrap materials. Built on the principle of the 3R concept—Reduce, Reuse and Recycle—the facility will be called the 'Waste-to-Wonder' park. The park will offer a recreational space for visitors and spread awareness about waste recycling and environmental conservation. Officials said over 1,000 tonnes of scrap materials are being used in its construction. Large and visually striking sculptures of animals such as dinosaurs, peacocks, elephants and eagles are being created within the park. Artistic representations of tribal attire, palm trees & decorative arches are also being crafted.

2 linked to ISI module arrested in Punjab ops

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

PUNJAB police have busted an ISI-sponsored terror and cross-border arms smuggling module with the arrest of two people and the recovery of an AK-47 rifle, two magazines and 36 live cartridges from them.

Punjab DGP Gaurav Yadav said on Saturday, "Those arrested have been identified as Gursevak Singh alias Suraj from New Abadi in Amritsar's Attari and Amarjit Singh alias Rohit from the Subhash Road in Chheharta in the same city." Apart from the AK-47 rifle, police teams have also recovered three sophisticated 9MM Glock pistols from their possession.

Yadav added, "A preliminary investigation has revealed that the accused were in touch with foreign-based handlers through social media. The module also had a role in radicalisation and spread of anti-India as well as anti-police narratives."

Amritsar SSP (Rural) Suhail Qasim Mir said the probe has revealed that the consignment of weapons was sent by foreign handlers via Pakistan to carry out terrorist activities in Punjab. Further investigation is on to ascertain their links so that the entire network could be dismantled.

Shah hints at going to polls without tie-up with Akalis, says BJP will form govt

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

ENDING speculation over an alliance with SAD in the forthcoming 2027 assembly elections, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said that BJP will contest the assembly polls with the aim of forming its own government.

Shah also promised to introduce a stringent law against forced religious conversions if the party forms the government. Addressing the 'Badlaav' rally in the Killi Chahlan village at Moga, Shah said that Punjab has given many chances to Congress, Akalis and AAP and should now give BJP a chance. Shah, without naming any party, said, "Earlier, whenever we contested in Punjab, we came here as chhota bhai (younger brother). But we will contest in Punjab to form our own government in 2027. We are starting our preparations for the elections from today."

Announcing two major promises if the BJP comes to power in 2027 in Punjab, Shah announced that they will end the drug menace within two years of forming the government and will bring an anti-conversion law to stop forceful regions conversions. "We scrapped Article 370 in J&K. Today, Naxalism is on the verge of its end. If Punjab has to get rid of the drug menace, it needs BJP's double-engine government," he said.

'Anti-conversion law'

Shah also promised to introduce a stringent law against forced religious conversions if the party forms the government. He further said that Punjab should now give BJP a chance in the state polls.

Terming the Bhagwant Mann government "corrupt", he said it has become an "ATM" for Arvind Kejriwal. "What exactly is your CM doing? Across the entire country, wherever Kejriwal needs to travel, this CM has done nothing other than chartering aircraft at the Punjab government's expense and flying him there as his personal pilot," Shah said.

1, not 2, laddu: LPG crisis hits prasad distribution in Shirdi

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE LPG cylinder shortage has impacted devotees at the Shirdi Sai Baba Temple, with the temple trust deciding to distribute only one laddu instead of the usual two. The trust has also proposed scaling down the canteen menu from the regular dal–rice meal to dal khichdi to manage the limited gas supply.

According to the trust, thousands of devotees come to Shirdi to pay their respects. "Daily, we sell 45,000 packets of Laddu while 50,000 Laddus are given free of cost to the devotees. Presently, we have an LPG cylinder stock for 10 to 12 days," the trust stated.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra's food and civil supply minister, Chhagan Bhujbal, said that they constituted the committees at district levels to ensure there is no shortage of LPG cylinders for domestic purposes.

"If there are technical issues in supplying the gas cylinders, then the district committees will look into it and resolve the issues. People should not panic and order more cylinders than the requirement. We have enough stock," Bhujbal said.

Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnavis also said there was no need to panic over the shortage of LPG cylinders, asserting that leaders of the Indian National Congress were fearmongering and creating unnecessary panic among people over the issue.

Maharashtra Congress president Harshvardhan Sapkal said that if there is no shortage of LPG cylinders, then why are videos of restaurants and hotels shutting down circulating, and why are people seen standing in long queues to get cylinders?

Modi constituency temple hit by gas crunch

Even Kashi, the parliamentary constituency of PM Narendra Modi, has been hit hard by the ongoing LPG cylinder crisis, which has resulted in the closure of food courts at the Annapurna temple until further arrangements for fuel are made for the same.

70-year-old dies while standing in cylinder queue

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

A 70-year-old embroidery worker died of a suspected heart attack while waiting in a queue to collect an LPG cylinder at a gas agency godown in UP's Farrukhabad district on Friday.

The deceased, identified as Mukhtiyar Ahmed, a resident of Garhi Khan Khana area, is survived by his wife and seven children. Mukhtiyar was standing in a line when he experienced severe chest pain and collapsed. All attempts by locals present on the spot to give him a CPR failed, his kin say. He was rushed to a nearby hospital, where the doctors declared him brought dead.

However, Farrukhabad District Supply Officer Surendra Yadav dismissed speculation that Mukhtiyar's death had something to do with standing in a queue for hours.

Notably, this comes in the backdrop of a similar incident in Punjab's Barnala.

Cow politics: C'garh launches scheme for stray, Cong says its idea hijacked

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

IN a move to strengthen cattle conservation in Chhattisgarh, CM Vishnu Deo Sai launched the 'Gaudham Yojana' at Lakhasar village in Bilaspur district on Saturday. He inaugurated 29 Gaudhams located in 11 districts in the first phase.

The CM announced that the initiative will be known as 'Surabhi Gaudham'. "The Gaudham Yojana aims to provide shelter and care for destitute, wandering, and confiscated cattle. The government has set a target to establish 1,460 Gaudhams, with a plan to set up 10 such facilities in every development block," Sai said.

These centres are designed to be the backbone of a strengthened rural economy, integrating cattle protection with skill development and self-employment, he said. "Surabhi Gaudhams will function as training centres where local residents can learn advanced animal husbandry, modern fodder production, and manufacturing of value-added products from cow dung," the CM said.

Daily subsidy per animal to increase every year

A tiered financial assistance model has been introduced for fodder and nutrition. The daily subsidy per animal will increase annually to encourage long-term care— ₹10 per animal per day in the first year, ₹20 in second year and ₹30 in the third year and ₹35 for the fourth year onwards.

A tiered financial assistance model has been introduced for fodder and nutrition. The daily subsidy per animal will increase annually. The government has allocated ₹5 lakh annually per facility for infrastructure repairs. Further, the scheme provides monthly honorariums for shepherds and Gau-sevaks.

Opposition Congress leaders have alleged that the BJP's sole focus has been on changing the names of the existing projects. "The Congress government's Gauthan Nyay Yojana had empowered the rural economy by providing a steady source of income to thousands of farmers, women's self-help groups, and cattle rearers," Congress spokesperson Dhananjay Thakur said.

State must ensure prayers at designated places: HC

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE Allahabad HC has said the state is duty-bound to ensure that every community is able to hold prayers peacefully at a designated place of worship or on a private property without requiring official permission.

Taking a stern view of the local administration's decision to limit the number of nazamis at a mosque in UP's Sambhal, a division bench of Justice Atul Sreedharan and Justice Siddharth Nandan emphasised that it is the state's duty to ensure that the rule of law prevails under every circumstance.

"It is duty of the state to ensure that every community is able to offer worship peacefully in the designated place of worship and if it is a private property as already been held by the Court earlier, to perform worship without any permission from the state," said the bench. "This court has already settled that it is only where prayers or religious functions have to be held on public land or spill over the public property that the involvement of the state is essential and permission must be sought," the court said in its order dated February 27.

The court was hearing a petition filed by Munazir Khan of Sambhal alleging that he was prevented from conducting prayers during Ramzan on Gata No. 291, where according to the petitioner, the mosque exists. The state also conceded that permission was granted only for 20 worshippers on account of the "perceived law and order situation". The Court outrightly rejected the contention, saying the state officials should resign if they could not uphold law and order.

"If the local authorities, i.e. Superintendent of Police and Collector, feel that the law and order situation could arise because of which they want to limit the number of worshipers within the premises, they should either resign from their post or seek transfer from Sambhal if they feel they are not competent enough to enforce the rule of law," the bench said. The court made the observation in view of the State's submissions that there was a dispute with regard to the ownership of the place where the mosque was stated to be situated.

However, the court noted that the petitioner had failed to submit photographs of the mosque. The bnch posted the matter for next hearing on March 16. While the state has been asked to respond to the plea, the petitioner is to bring on record photographs and revenue records to show where the namaz is to be offered.

In a related development, recent orders from the Allahabad High Court also restrained authorities in UP's Budaun from interfering with prayers in a mosque located on private property, reaffirming that there is no legal prohibition against religious prayer meetings in private premises.

'SP, collector can quit if they are not competent'

Rejecting an order of the UP government restricting the number of people offering prayers at a mosque in Sambhal district due to law and order issues, the Allahabad High Court has said the Superintendent of Police and Collector should either resign or seek transfer from Sambhal if they feel they are not competent enough to enforce rule of law.

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Open e-Tender Notice Nos. C/E.29/ Elec/M/SC/49/OEW/OT/2025-26 Dt.11.03.2026

PUB/2102

For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the given below work up to **15.00** hours on **06.04.2026**

1. e-Tender No. : etenderNo. C/E.29/Elec/M/SC/49/OEW/OT/2025-26 etender No.E-M-SC-49-OT-2025-26 **Name of work**: Secunderabad Division Electrical Maintenance Department - Provision of web based monitoring (IoT) and controls of Pumps including automation of pumps, 30% - 70% Lighting on Platforms, street lighting circuits, Lifts and Escalators ,DG sets, LT connection and major load centres integrate with IR-NIYANTRAC portal (Phase-III) - Electrical arrangements. **Tender Value : (₹)** 9,15,55,644.00 **EMD : (₹)** 6,07,800.00 **CTF : (₹)** 0.00 **Completion period :** 6 Months

1. Tender conditions/other particulars are available in the Tender documents on IREPS website at "**www.ireps.gov.in**" which can be downloaded, can be participated and can view any modifications if any.
2. The tender notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the office of Sr.DEE(Maintenance), Secunderabad Division, South Central Railway, Secunderabad which can be seen on all working days.
3. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, (M) Secunderabad

TENDER NOTICE NO: 63/2026 Dt.13.03.2026 SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS e-Procurement Tender Notice

PUB/2111

The Following Tenders Have Been Floated Online. Tenders Are Requested To Visit The Website **www.ireps.gov.in** And Submit Their Offers Online. The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD May Be Seen In Website. Offers Submitted Manually Will Not Be Accepted. Offers By Post Will Not Be Entertained. Tender Closing Time Is 14.30 Hrs Of The Due Date Of The Tender. "For All Indigenous Offers, EMD Will Be Accepted Only Via Online System As Available On **www.ireps.gov.in**."

Tender No.	Brief Description
66265416	Track Machine Spares of plasser make
LH2625322	Speed sensor FS01
LY265085	Track Measuring System for Surveying Railroad Geometry model Track Scan.
LH265317	Traction motor complete
LH265324	(sci*) kbz-10J400I Disc brake unit
38262063	Bogie centre pivot bottom (Flat type)
30251150	Helical Spring
66265520	Procurement of Valves for track machine
6026PT009	Procurement of Combination Fishplate to RDSO T-8533 to 8536
38265011	Cast steel Bolster with Integrated 14' center pivot bottom for LWLH25 Bogie
6026PT007	Procurement of Various of Fishplates.
38265012	Cast steel bolster for BLC Wagon
66265656	Procurement of Transducer etc, for Track Machine
38262097	Bogie centre pivot bottom (Flat type)
38265013	Cast steel side frame for BLC Wagon
LH265320	70 AH, 110 V VRLA lead acid Battery set
66258000	Procurement of LORAM MAKE spares for Track Machines.
66265563	Procurement of spares for track machines
66256193B	Procurement of CRCC HTEC MAKE spares for the use of Track Machines

Note:-Due dates of Tender Opening: SL.No.01 on dt.27.03.2026.SL.No. 02 on dt.30.04.2026. SL.No. 03 on dt.01.04.2026. SL.No.04 to 08 on dt.06.04.2026. SL.No.09 & 10 on dt.07.04.2026 SL.No.11 & 12 on dt.08.04.2026 SL.No.13 to 15 on dt.09.04.2026. SL.No.16 on dt.10.04.2026 SL.No.17 on dt.13.04.2026. L.No.18 on dt.15.04.2026 L.No.19 on dt.20.04.2026

Corrigendum

1).Tender Notice No.59/2026 dt. 12.02.2026 Tender No52255011A due on 09.03.2026 Brief ;IP Based VSS for Diesel Loco may be read as Due date 23.03.2026. instead of existing.
2).Tender Notice No.58/2026 dt. 06.02.2026 Tender No.66259796 due on 09.03.2026 Brieff procurement of spares for track machines. may be read as Due date 16.03.2026. instead of existing

Beside Above Mentioned Tenders There Are Other Tenders Having Value Above **Rs.50 Lakhs.** For Details, Please Visit Railway Website Above.

A2668 **Principal Chief Materials Manager/Secunderabad**

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

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IDBI BANK

CIN : L65190MH2004GOI148838
Mission Road Branch: Retail Recovery, 2nd Floor, IDBI House, # 58, Mission Road, Bangalore-560027. Ph: 080-61451233/234/241/ 246/250/280, Email: recovery.bangalore@idbi.co.in

CORRIGENDUM

In the Sale Notice published in this newspaper on **09.03.2026**, The Reserve Price and EMD in the Sale Notice relating to the borrowers: **Mrs. Lakshmi Srinivasa & Mrs. Rathna Srinivasa** has been wrongly printed as Serial No.2, Reserve Price : Rs. 44,00,000/- and EMD: Rs. 4,40,000/- and Serial No.3, Reserve Price : Rs. 46,80,000/- and EMD: Rs. 4,68,000/-. Please consider the correct details as **Serial No.2, Reserve Price : Rs. 46,80,000/- and EMD: Rs. 4,68,000/- and Serial No.3, Reserve Price : Rs. 44,00,000/- and EMD: Rs. 4,40,000/-.** All other contents remain unchanged.

Date : 14.03.2026
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer IDBI Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General public that my client **Mr. AFSAR PASHA**, S/o. Babu, intend to purchase Southern portion Property bearing House List No. 388, Site No. 4 & 5, Assessment No. 26, Khaneshmari No. D-3 & D-4, 7th Cross, Gangondanahalli, Joseph Nagar, previously Gangondanahalli village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, BBMP Old Ward No. 40, New Ward No.132, Bengaluru, measuring East to West: 15 feet and North to South: 40 feet and bounded on the: East By: Property belongs to Mr. Chowrappa, West By: Property belongs to Mr. Aslam K, North By: Property belongs to Mr. Imthiyaz Pasha, South By: 7th Cross from **Mr. K. RIYAZ & Mr. ALTAF K** children of Mr. Khalendar S.B. Any person/s asserting any kind of right, title, interest or claims of any sort towards the Sale transaction may file their objections or claims with documentary proof thereof with the undersigned within **7 days (Seven)** from the date of this publication, failing which my clients will proceed to complete the transaction without being liable for any claims put forth thereof.

Date: 14/03/2026 Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- BI BI AYESHA
Advocate,
No. 27, Ramakrishnanagar, J.P.Nagar Post, Bengaluru-560 078.

WESTERN RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM

With referance to Tender No.: **W641-22-23-06C (E-434312)** wherein Date & Time of Tender closing to be read as **31.03.2026 at 11:00 hrs** instead of 17.03.2026 at 11:00 hrs. **Other Terms & Conditions remain the same.** 1217

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Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences

Raebareli Road, Lucknow-226014 (U.P.)
Telephone: 0522-2494038, 2494095
E-mail:sgpgicontractcell@gmail.com, website: www.sgpgims.org.in

Corrigendum

Refer advertisement of SGPGIMS published in this newspaper on 14th March 2026 under **"Establishment of A Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Facility on Public Private Partnership Basis" in Core Lab**. The advertisement number should be read as **I/58/Contract Cell/NGS Facility Core Lab/2025-26 instead of 1/58/Contract Cell/NGS Facility Core Lab/2025-26.** All other terms and conditions remain the same.

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

KMML
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam-691 583
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 2651217, e-mail: md@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

Sl No.	Tender ID	Items
1	2026_KMML_844288_1	AMC - rewinding of LT induction motors
2	2026_KMML_846663_1	Iron oxide shifting from New IOP
3	2026_KMML_846665_1	Iron oxide Brick Making plant
4	2026_KMML_846337_1	Supply of Low-Density Polythene (LDPE) film
5	2026_KMML_847290_1	Supply of 100MR Pipe CS ERW IS 3589, 500MM x 8MM & 30MR Pipe CS ERW IS 3589, 600MM x 8MM

Chavara 15.03.2026 Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR COLLEGE OF NURSING
LAJPAT NAGAR IV, NEAR MOOLCHAND METRO STATION, NEW DELHI-110024 Tel. Nos. 011-2643 6788, 2643 5270, 26435397
E-mail-principal-rakcon@gov.in

ADMISSION NOTICE

M.Sc. Nursing (Session 2026-2027)
Affiliated to University of Delhi

Applications are invited for admission to M.Sc. Nursing, academic session **2026-2027.** Prescribed application forms with prospectus can be downloaded from college website **www.rakcon.com** and should be submitted online from **20/03/2026 to 24/04/2026 by 5.00 p.m.** on online payment of **Rs. 1500/-** in favour of **Principal, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur College of Nursing payable at New Delhi.**

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Candidate must have passed the B.Sc. (Hons.) Nursing Examination from University of Delhi or B.Sc. Nursing/Post Basic Nursing from a recognized University with minimum 55% marks in the aggregate and completed one year experience in Nursing in a Hospital/Specialty Institute/Educational Institution or Public Health/ Agency (100 & more bedded). The experience will be calculated up to **24th April, 2026.** The selection test will be held on **31 May, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.**

CBC 17149/11/0001/2526

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA

Kalyan Nagar Branch (17735), 5th Main Road, HRBR Layout 2nd Stage, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru-560043.

NOTICE FOR SALE OF VEHICLES BY E-AUCTION

Notice to public is hereby given to the effect that the vehicle described herein will be sold by **State Bank of India** by way of E-Auction on the date and time mentioned in this notice is "**AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION**" basis.

Sl. No	Name of the Borrower	Vehicle Make & Model	Reg. No.	Parking Location	Reserve Price	EMD Amount
1.	Shri. Shravan Kumar Bheemraj Mathadin	Hyundai Creta Electric Excellence	KA 04 NF 2418	SBI Regional Office Banaswadi Basement	Rs. 20,12,000/-	Rs. 2,01,200/-

Date & Time of E-Auction 23/03/2026, 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM (Last date of EMD Amount : 23/03/2026, 02.00 PM)

Terms and Condtions:

1. E-Auction is being held on **"as is where is condition"** basis and the Bank is not responsible for any condition or any other facts affecting the vehicles.
2. The above vehicles will not be sold less than the Reserve Price.
3. The successful bidder should pay the Bank 25% of the H1 Bid Amount (10% EMD+15% Amount) on the same day of the E-Auction and the balance 75% should be paid before 15 days from the date of E-Auction. Failing to which any amount paid to the Bank will be forfeited.
4. The bidders have to increase the bidding amount by minimum **Rs. 10,000/-** above reserve price.
5. Intending bidders can inspect the vehicles at the respective parking yards on working hours by calling Smt. Prachi Guptha, Chief Manager (Mob 96325 21591)
6. The Authorized Officer shall be at liberty to cancel or postpone the E-Auction process at any time, before declaring the sucessfull bidder, without assigning any reason.
7. The E-Auction will take place through portal **https://baanknet.com/ as per the terms and condtions**.

Date: 13.03.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer

ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ
ಸತ್ತಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ-571313
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್- : apmccrnagar@rediffmail.com, apmccrnagar@gmail.com
ದೂ: 08226-222103,225665

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕೃಉಮಾಸ(ಚಾ): 761:2025-26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09-03-2026

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ ಇವರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಕಾಯಿದೆ 1999 ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮ 2000 ಹಾಗೂ ತತ್ಸಂಬಂಧವಾಗಿ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿರುವ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ, ಸುತ್ತೋಲೆಗಳಂತೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಎರಡು ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಹಾಗೂ **Standard Tender Documents KW-4 Clause 3 (withlatest amendments)** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಹರಿರುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ-1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು: ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ 2025-26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಬಾರ್ಡ್ ಆರ್‌ಐಡಿಎಫ್-31 ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಅನುಮೋದಿತ ಸಂತೆಮರಳ್ಳಿ ಉಪ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಗಣದಲ್ಲಿನ ತೆಂಗಿನಕಾಯಿ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಗೆ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ. (ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್), ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ -418,22,896=18 ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊಬಲಗು ರೂ.ಶೇಕಡ 1.50 ರಂತೆ ಅಥವಾ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ (ಇ ಪೇಮೆಂಟ್)-6,28,000=00 ಕೆಲಸ ಪೂರ್ಣೈಸಲು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಅವಧಿ (ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಹೊರತು ಪಡಿಸಿ) 6 ತಿಂಗಳು, ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ದರ್ಜೆ- ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲು-4 ಕ್ಲಾಸ್-3 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಹರಿರುವ & ಲೋ.ಇ.ಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು, ಇ ಪ್ರೋಸೆಸಿಂಗ್ ಫೀ. (ಇ ಪೇಮೆಂಟ್)- ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಂತೆ

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ:

1) ಪ್ರೀ ಬಿಡ್ ಮೀಟಿಂಗ್ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06/04/2026, ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ: 11-00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ
2) ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ:13/04/2026 ಮತ್ತು ವೇಳೆ:ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
3) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16/04/2026 ಮತ್ತು ವೇಳೆ : ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11-00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
4) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:22/04/2026 ಮತ್ತು ವೇಳೆ : ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11-00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ನಂತರ

Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home under login for Contractors

ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ : ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ,
ಪತ್ರ ವ್ಯವಹಾರದ ವಿಳಾಸ : ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ,

ಸಹಿ/- (ಬಿ. ಜಗದೀಶ್)
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಕೃಉಮಾಸ
ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ

ಸಹಿ/- (ಗುರುಸ್ವಾಮಿ. ಎಂ. ಬಿ)
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಕೃಉಮಾಸ
ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ

ಸಂ:ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ:ಚಾನಗರ:789:2025-26

V.O.CHIDAMBARANAR PORT AUTHORITY
Civil Engineering Department
TUTICORIN – 628 004
SAGARMALA

GLOBAL NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Only Through E-Tendering Mode)

VOCPA E-Tendering Website : https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app

NIT.No:09/PD/OH HAM/PMC/2025-26/D. 881 Date:14.03.2026

V.O.Chidambaranar Port invites tenders (Online tenders) in "Two bid system" from interested, reputed, well experienced Consultants

i.	Name of Work	Project Management Consultancy services for the Project "Construction of Breakwater, Rock Bund, Wharf and capital dredging and reclamation for backup yard including maintenance thereof on Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) under Development of Outer Harbour at V.O. Chidambaranar Port."
ii.	Bid security amount	**Rs.85,00,000/-** (Rupees Eighty Five lakhs only)
iii.	Downloading of Tender from VOCPA online e-tendering website / CPP Portal	18.03.2026 to 08.04.2026
iv.	Pre Proposal Conference date	25.03.2026 at 12:00 hrs through Video conference (Link will be sent to the bidders who show interest via mail)
v.	Last date and time for submission of e-Tender through online	08.04.2026 upto 15:00 Hrs
vi.	Online Bid opening date and time	09.04.2026 at 15:30 Hrs
vii.	Period of completion	As specified in clause 2.1 V of Section 2 of tender.
viii.	Validity of tender	120 days from the last date fixed for receiving the tender

For further details, visit port Website: **www.vocport.gov.in / https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app**
Ph.No : **0461-2372306**
Email : **ce@vocport.gov.in**

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER

COIMBATORE CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Tender Date Extension Notice
Tender Notice No. e17/2026 Dated: 14.03.2026
(Two Cover System-e-submission only)

1. Bids are invited Two cover system - Carrying out pollution control works in the Noyyal River and undertaking improvement works on both banks of the river from Aathupalam Junction to Nanjundapuram Road Junction.
2. Total Estimate Amount **Rs.202.74 Crore.**
3. The bid documents can be downloaded from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** free of cost.
4. Amount of Earnest Money Deposit will be 1% of the estimated value of work.
5. Any additional/further details and conditions related to these works can be had from the office of the Commissioner, Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation.
6. **Important dates**

Sl.No.	Description	Tender Date (Original)	Extended Date Details
1	Downloading of Tender Documents	04.03.2026 upto 3.00 PM	31.03.2026 upto 3.00 PM
2	Last Date for Submission of Tender	04.03.2026 upto 3.00 PM	31.03.2026 upto 3.00 PM
3	Opening of Technical Bids	04.03.2026 at 4.00 PM	31.03.2026 at 4.00 PM

7. In the event of the specified date for submission of bids is declared as a holiday, bids will be received and opened on the next working day at the same time.
8. Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, Big Bazaar Street, Townhall, Coimbatore–641001, **Ph.No.0422-2396026,** E-mail **commr.coimbatore@tn.gov.in**

DIPR/1794/TENDER/2026

COMMISSIONER, COIMBATORE CORPORATION

Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid Identification No. CCEKC-22/2025-26
e-mail : ccekeonjharpwdcircle@gmail.com/sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com

34001/195/2526 Letter No. 1218 Dt.11.03.2026

1	Name of the work	2 numbers of Building works
2	Estimated cost	**Rs.169.24 Lakhs to Rs.443.66 Lakhs**
3	Class of contractor	"B" & "A" class
4	Period of completion	06 (Six) Calendar Months to 11 (Eleven) Calendar Months
5	Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal	From 11.00 Hrs of 19.03.2026 to 16.00 Hrs of 02.04.2026
6	Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal	16.00 Hrs of 02.04.2026.
7	Date of opening of Bid from Portal	11.30 Hrs of 04.04.2026.
8	Name and address of the officer inviting Bid	Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **"http://tendersodisha.gov.in"**

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer Keonjhar (R&B) Keonjhar

OIPR-34001/34033/1/25-26/0023

Government of Odisha
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER CUTTACK (R&B) CIRCLE, CUTTACK
('e' – PROCUREMENT NOTICE)
E-mail.ID- sectcrb_2006@yahoo.co.in, Tel/Fax – 0671-2301751/2302751

34001/183/2526 Bid Identification No.CCE.Ctc.(R&B) 19 / 2025-26

1. The Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B)Circle, Cuttack on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on Percentage rate basis bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road and Building works as mentioned below.
2. No. of work :- 04 Nos.
3. Nature of work :- Road and Building works
4. Class of contractor :- **'B', 'A' & Special Class**
5. Tender paper cost :- Rs.10000/- (online)
6. Available of bid document in the web site. :- **From 20.03.2026 to 17.30 Hours of 04.04.2026**
7. Date of opening of bid :- **Dt.06.04.2026 at 11.00 Hours**
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website **https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said web site

Sd/- T. Behera, Chief Engineer (Civil), Cuttack (R&B) Circle

OIPR- 34001/34012/1/25-26/0020

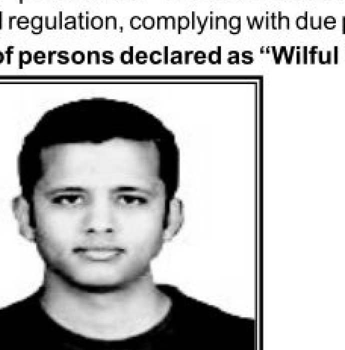
इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank
इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

STRESSED ASSETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH - CHENNAI
55, Ethiraj Salai, Zonal Office Building II Floor, Wellington Estate, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008. Telephone : 044-28216711. email : armb2chennai@indianbank.bank.in

PUBLIC NOTICE ON WILFUL DEFAULTERS

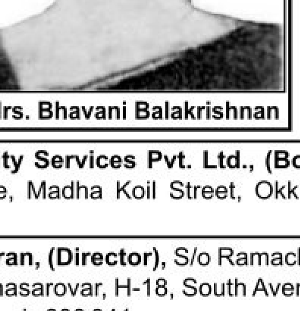
It is hereby notified to the public at large that the below mentioned Borrowers/ Directors/Guarantors/Mortgagors/Partners/Proprietors of NPA Loan Account : **M/s. Kriya Hospitality Services Pvt. Ltd.** have failed and wilfully neglected to pay the amount which are liable towards repayment of their loan account/s to Indian Bank, SAM Branch Chennai. Hence we declare the following persons as **"Wilful Defaulters"** in terms of Bank's/RBI's extant rules and regulation, complying with due process prescribed therein.

Details of persons declared as "Wilful Defaulters" are :



Mr. Raj Ramachandran

Ms. Madhuri Kanugovi



Mrs. Bhavani Balakrishnan

(1) **M/s. Kriya Hospitality Services Pvt. Ltd., (Borrower Company),** 361, OMR Escapade, Madha Koil Street, Okkiam, Thoraipakkam, Chennai - 600 097.
(2) **Mr. Raj Ramachandran, (Director),** S/o Ramachandran, Flat No.12, 4th Floor, Sriram Manasarovar, H-18, South Avenue, Kamaraj Nagar, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai - 600 041.
(3) **Ms. Madhuri Kanugovi, (Director),** W/o Raj Ramachandran, Flat No.12, 4th Floor, Sriram Manasarovar, H-18, South Avenue, Kamaraj Nagar, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai - 600 041.
(4) **Mrs. Bhavani Balakrishnan, (Director),** D/o Balakrishnan, 2221/E, Cross Harbour Layout, 3rd Block, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore - 560 084.

Loan Amount : Rs.1,13,00,000/-
Amount due as on 12.03.2026 : Rs.1,75,81,100.45 and further interest thereon.

Hence in the interest of the public, it is informed and cautioned that no person shall deal with any of the properties of the above named Borrowers/ Directors/Guarantors/Mortgagors/Partners/Proprietors as a huge sum is recoverable from the aforesaid debtors.

Date : 15.03.2026 Place : Chennai **BRANCH MANAGER**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(CONSTRUCTION / ROAD SAFETY PROJECTS)
E-Tender Notice No. CAO-CN-RSP-ROB-01- 2026 Dated 13.03.2026

For and on behalf of The President of India, Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction, Road Safety Projects, Southern Railway, Egmore, Chennai 600 008 invites e-tender for the following works as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderers / Contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted.

Tender No: CAO-CN-RSP-ROB-1-2026

Name of the work

1. SALEM DIVISION - ERODE - KARUR SECTION- Proposed Construction of Road Over Bridge in Lieu of Existing LC No: 5 at km 5/400-500 1x36.0m Effective Span Composite Girder Between Erode and Pasur Stations Along with Pedestrian Subway.

2. SALEM DIVISION - JOLARPETTAI - PODANUR SECTION - Proposed Rebuilding of Existing Road Over Bridge SGE - 13 at km 377/47-49 as 1 x 18.0m (Effective Span) Composite Girder between Sankaridrug and Anangur Stations.

3. SALEM DIVISION - JOLARPETTAI - PODANUR SECTION - Proposed Rebuilding of Existing Road Over Bridge SGE - 42 at km 386/3-5 as 1 x 18.0m (Effective Span) Composite Girder between Anangur and Cauvery Stations.

4. SALEM DIVISION - JOLARPETTAI - PODANUR SECTION - Proposed Rebuilding of Existing Aqueduct Bridge SGE - 48 at km 386A/33-35 as 1 x 18.0m (Effective Span) PSC 'U' Girder between Anangur and Cauvery Stations.

5. SALEM DIVISION - JOLARPETTAI - PODANUR SECTION - Proposed Rebuilding of Existing Bridge SGE - 40 at km 385A/9-11 as Road Over Bridge 1 x 18.0m (Effective Span) Composite Girder & Aqueduct 1 x 18.0m PSC 'U' Girder between Anangur and Cauvery Stations.

6. SALEM DIVISION - JOLARPETTAI - PODANUR SECTION - Proposed Rebuilding of Existing Aqueduct Bridge SGE - 43 at km 386/17-19 as 1 x 18.0m (Effective Span) PSC 'U' Girder between Anangur and Cauvery Stations.

7. SALEM DIVISION - JOLARPETTAI - PODANUR SECTION - Proposed Rebuilding of Existing Road Over Bridge SGE - 47 at km 386A/25-27 as 1 x 18.0m (Effective Span) Composite Girder between Anangur and Cauvery Stations.

Cash Value (Rupees)	**45,11,79,160**
Closing Date @ 15.00 Hrs	**06.04.2026**

For further details, please refer web site portal **www.ireps.gov.in** or contact Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Construction, Road Safety Projects, Southern Railway, E.V.R. High Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction, Road Safety Projects, Chennai Egmore. for and On behalf of President of India

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RBL BANK LTD

Registered Office: 1st Lane, Shahupuri, Kolhapur-416001.

NOTICE OF SALE THROUGH PRIVATE TREATY

SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS CHARGED TO THE BANK UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002. (SARFAESI ACT)

The undersigned as Authorized Officer of **RBL Bank Ltd.** has taken over **Physical Possession** of the schedule property under the SARFAESI Act.

The Authorized Officer of **M/s. RBL Bank Ltd.**, had already conducted multiple public auctions for selling the property, but they turned out to be unsuccessful as no bids were received. Hence please be informed that if the total outstanding dues in the aforesaid loan account are not paid within **Fifteen (15) Days** from the date of this publication of this notice, then the Authorized officer will proceed for sale via private treaty of the property as stated below.

Public at large is informed that the secured property as mentioned in the Schedule are available for sale through Private Treaty, as per the terms agreeable to the Bank for realization of Bank's dues on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".**

Standard terms & conditions for sale of property through Private Treaty are as under:

1. Sale through Private Treaty will be on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".**
2. The purchaser will be required to deposit 25% of the sale consideration on the next working day of receipt of Bank's acceptance of offer for purchase of property and the remaining amount within 15 days thereafter.
3. The purchaser has to deposit 10% of the offered amount along with application which will be adjusted against 25% of the deposit to be made as per clause (2) above.
4. Failure to remit the amount as required under clause (2) above, will cause forfeiture of amount already paid including 10% of the amount paid along with application.
5. In case of non-acceptance of offer of purchase by the Bank, the amount of 10% paid along with the application will be refunded without any interest.
6. The purchaser should conduct due diligence on all aspects related to the property (under sale through private treaty) to his satisfaction. The purchaser shall not be entitled to make any claim against the Authorized Officer / Secured Creditor in this regard at a later date.
7. The Bank reserves the right to reject any offer of purchase without assigning any reason.
8. In case of more than one offer, the Bank will accept the highest offer.
9. The interested parties may contact the Authorized Officer for further details / clarifications and for submitting their application.
10. The purchaser has to bear all stamp duty, registration fee, and other expenses, taxes, duties, society dues in respect of purchase of the property.
11. Sale shall be in accordance with the provisions of SARFAESI Act / Rules.

SCHEDULE

Loan Account No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-borrowers	Amount as per 13(2) Demand Notice under SARFAESI Act.	Reserve price for private treaty
409000297069 & 809002683996	**1. M/s. Empire Cooling Solutions Pvt Ltd. (Borrower), 2. Mr. R.Rajgopal (Co-Borrower, Guarantor & Mortgagor), 3. Mrs. Nalini Rajgopal (Co-Borrower),** Both Residing at: Flat S-1, 2nd Floor, Swathi Swaraapts, No.97,1st Main, Aecs Layout, Geddalahalli, Sanjaynagar, Bangalore, Karnataka-560094. Also at... #7, 2nd Floor, Raj Apartments, No.47, 4th Cross, Near U.P.Royal Complex, Malleshwaram, Bangalore, Karnataka-560003.	**Rs.1,25,46,343.22 (One Crore Twenty Five Lakh Forty Six Thousand Three Hundred Forty Three and Paisa Twenty Two Only) as on 10th November 2022**	**Rs.62,00,000/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Only)**

Description of Secured Assets/ Immovable Properties: Composite Schedule A Property: All that piece and parcel of the Residential Site No.97, in the layout formed by the Aircraft Employees' Co-operative Society Limited, as per the layout plan approved by the City Improvement Trust Board, Bangalore, vide its Resolution No. 1450, Dated: 03.01.1973, in Survey Nos. 12/1, 12/3, 24/3, 24/4, 31/3, 32/1, 32/3, 32/4, 33/2, 35/2, 36/3 and 39/1, of Geddalahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Now assigned as Municipal No.97 PID No.100-01-97, situated at ABCS Layout, Sy.No.12/1, BBMP Ward No.100, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 50' (Fifty Feet) and North to South: 82' (Eighty Two Feet), in all measuring 4100 square feet and **bounded on East by:** Property No.96, **West by:** Property No.98, **North by:** Property No.105, **South by:** Road

SCHEDULE-B PROPERTY (Property conveyed to the Purchaser): 400 Square Feet undivided share of land rights, title, claims or interest or whatsoever in the schedule 'A' property. **SCHEDULE-C PROPERTY (Property conveyed to the Purchaser):** Flat No.S-1, on the Second Floor, having a super built up area of 1800 square feet, consisting of Three Bedrooms/ living cum dining hall, kitchen, toilets, balconies & utility area, with vitrified flooring, with sal wood used for doors & windows constructed in an Apartment building known as **"SWATHI SWARA",** constructed on the schedule 'A' property and one covered car parking area earmarked as No.S-1, in the Stilt Floor, with all civic amenities, together with a proportionate share in common areas, such as passage lobbies, lift, staircase, overhead water tank and other areas of common use, excluding terrace area.

The Property is owned by **MR. R.Rajagopal.**

The aforesaid Borrower's/Co-borrower's attention is invited to provisions of section 13(8) of SARFAESI Act for redemption of secured assets mentioned hereinabove by tendering the aforementioned outstanding dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the bank before the sale of secured assets.

Correspondence Address: MR. BASAVARAJ NAGANURI, Mob. No. 9740092100 email: Basavaraj.Naganuri@rbl.bank.in, RBL BANK LTD. Prestige Tower, Ground Floor, 99 & 100, Residency Road, Bangalore 560025.

Place: Bangalore, Date: 15-03-2026 Sd/- Authorised Officer, RBL BANK LTD

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION (CHENNAI) LIMITED
PALLAVAN HOUSE, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI - 600 002.

TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of MTC, e-tenders are invited for the **"Procurement, Supply, Operation and Maintenance of 20 Double Decker Air Conditioned Electric Buses and Development of Allied, Electric and Civil Infrastructure on Gross Cost Contracting (GCC) Model".**

TENDER SCHEDULE					
Tender document download date start from	Tender document submission start date & time	Tender document submission end date & time	Tender will be opened on (Date & Time)	EMD amount in Rs.	Pre-bid meeting date and time
14.03.2026	31.03.2026 12.00 Hrs	16.04.2026 upto 16.00 Hrs	16.04.2026 at 16.30 Hrs	30,00,000/-	23.03.2026 at 15.00 Hrs

The tender documents are available in the tender websites : **https://tntenders.gov.in, https://mtcbus.tn.gov.in, https://tnidb.tn.gov.in.** Bidders are requested to upload their tender documents through the Government e-procurement portal **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app** only. Any modification (if any) in tender terms and tender invitation period will be uploaded in the websites and the tenderers are requested to go through the above website periodically.

MTC (Chennai) Ltd reserves the right to Accept / Reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

DIPR/ 1783 /TENDER/2026 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

QuoteExpress

PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES

ROBERT H SCHULLER

$1.6 trillion
in tariff revenue the Trump administration plans to replace after a Supreme Court ruling

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	21	1	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Colombo	28	24	SNY	Melbourne	26	15	LC
Dhaka	31	19	SNY	Moscow	4	2	SNY
Dubai	26	21	SNY	New York	7	2	SNY
Houston	31	19	TDS	Singapore	28	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	1	-5	SNY
London	13	9	SNY	Washington	3	-2	SNY

US, Ecuador sign trade deal cutting tariff rates

QUITO

THE United States and Ecuador have agreed to reduce tariff rates between the two nations, officials said, as countries seek to navigate US President Donald Trump's sweeping tariff campaign.

The agreement was signed on Friday in Washington by US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer and Ecuador's Minister of Production, Foreign Trade and Investment Luis Alberto Jaramillo following 10 months of negotiations.

The two countries had unveiled a framework in November to slash tariffs on a number of goods after Trump imposed a range of global reciprocal tariffs last year. The United States is Ecuador's leading trade partner. Ecuadoran exports to the United States totaled $6.8 billion in 2025, while imports amounted to $9.1 billion, according to the Central Bank of Ecuador. Ecuador has pledged to "reduce or eliminate tariffs in key sectors" for the United States, including health products, motor vehicles and some agricultural products, according to the White House.

Friday's deal also eliminates customs surcharges levied on products from the South American nation. It includes several other stipulations, including allowing the United States to "export critical minerals and energy resources" from Ecuador.

Ecuador's President Daniel Noboa, a Trump ally, said Friday the deal benefits 53 percent of the nation's non-oil exports and "opens the door for new Ecuadoran products to reach" the market. *AFP*

Kharg Island strike rattles Iran oil lifeline

The Gulf island handles nearly 90% of Iran's crude exports and sits near Strait of Hormuz

PARIS

KHARG Island, targeted in US air strikes on Saturday, is a scrubby stretch of land in the Gulf that handles almost all of Iran's crude exports.

Announcing the strikes, US President Donald Trump described Kharg as a "crown jewel" for Iran and maintained that every military target on the island had been "totally obliterated". The island, located around 30 kilometres off the Iranian mainland, is a hub for roughly 90 percent of Iran's crude exports, according to a JP Morgan note released earlier this month.

Analysts had warned an attack could have major repercussions for the now fortnight-long conflict between the US and Israel and Iran, which began with air strikes that killed supreme leader Ali Khamenei on February 28.

Iranian strikes have all but halted maritime traffic in the Strait of Hormuz — through which a fifth of global crude oil and liquefied natural gas normally pass — and have also impacted oil infrastructure in other Gulf states.

Trump wrote on Truth Social that for "reasons of decency, I have chosen NOT to wipe out the Oil Infrastructure on the Island." But he warned: "However, should Iran, or anyone else, do anything to interfere with the Free and Safe Passage of Ships through the Strait of Hormuz, I will immediately reconsider this decision."

WAR WATCH

Ehsan Jahaniyan, deputy governor of Iran's southern Bushehr province, quoted by the IRNA news agency, said Saturday oil companies "at this export terminal are continuing as normal" and there were no casualties. Kharg underwent key developments during Iran's oil expansion in the 1960s and 1970s, with much of the country's coast too shallow for supertankers.

Iran has looked to diversify its export capabilities by opening the Jask terminal outside the Strait of Hormuz chokepoint in the Gulf of Oman in 2021, but Kharg remains "a critical vulnerability" for Iran, JP Morgan said. "It is a cornerstone of Iran's economy and a major source of revenue for the Iranian Revolutionary Guards," JP Morgan added, referring to Iran's well-resourced ideological army which has major economic interests.

There had also been speculation among observers that were US ground forces to look to deploy inside Iran then Kharg would be an obvious first staging post. Trump has given no indication that such a move could be forthcoming.

Farzin Nadimi of the Washington Institute said the US could seize the island after hostilities, but warned it would be "not a wise move" during combat as Kharg is almost entirely covered with oil facilities, pipelines and tank farms and highly vulnerable to attack. *AFP*

KEY FACTS ON OIL EXPORT HUB

Kharg underwent key developments during Iran's oil expansion in the 1960s and 1970s, with much of the country's coast too shallow for supertankers

LOCATION
Small coral island in the Persian Gulf, about 21 miles (33 km) off Iran's coast

OIL EXPORT HUB
Primary terminal for nearly all Iranian oil exports

Satellite imagery recently showed multiple tankers loading crude from the island

ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE
Iran has exported 13.7 million barrels of oil since the war began

Oil shipments, including exports to China, form a key part of Iran's revenue

OTHER DETAILS
Gazelles roam near the refineries and oil depots on the island

INFRASTRUCTURE
Large oil storage tanks located in the southern part of the island

Facilities include refineries, depots and tanker-loading terminals

The island also has housing for thousands of workers

STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE
One of Iran's most valuable and sensitive assets

Analysts say losing control of Kharg would make it difficult for Iran's economy to function

Site of an overnight Israeli airstrike that targeted the Haret Hreik neighbourhood of Beirut's southern suburbs | AFP

Greek tanker hit in Black Sea, crew safe

ATHENS

A Greek-flagged oil tanker was damaged in a suspected drone attack in the Black Sea while approaching the Russian port of Novorossiysk, authorities said.

Greece's shipping ministry said the attack occurred early Saturday, causing material damage, but the 24 crew members were unharmed and the vessel's seaworthiness was not under threat.

The Maran Homer, chartered by US oil giant Chevron, was traveling from Thessaloniki in northern Greece to the Black Sea port and was due to sail on to Istanbul. It was struck by a missile or drone before picking up Kazakh oil, according to Greek government officials and the vessel's Greek operating company.

Greek Maritime Affairs Minister Vassilis Kikilias said Athens would lodge a "strong complaint" with the country deemed responsible, without giving further details. He later identified Ukraine as carrying out frequent attacks in the Black Sea.

"I consider the targeting of vessels flying the Greek flag — as well as those with Greek sailors and Greek shipping interests — to be unacceptable and extremely dangerous," Kikilias told state-run ERT television.

He said he believed the attack could be related to a US decision to temporarily ease some sanctions on Russian oil shipments because of volatility caused by the Iran war.

The war has also affected Greece's massive shipping industry, with dozens of Greek-flagged or Greek-owned vessels currently stranded in the Persian Gulf. *AFP*

Up to 30% salary cuts in Pak austerity drive

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday approved salary cuts of 5–30% for employees of state-owned enterprises and autonomous bodies as part of an austerity drive to address the fuel crisis triggered by the ongoing US-Israel-Iran conflict. The government said savings would fund public relief. Measures include halving fuel allocations for official vehicles, removing 60% of them from roads for two months, banning new government purchases and foreign trips, and diverting two months' salaries of ministers and advisers to welfare funds as fuel prices surge nationwide.

Macron offers to host Lebanon-Israel talks

PARIS: French President Emmanuel Macron on Saturday said Lebanon was ready to engage in direct talks with Israel and offered to host negotiations in Paris. Macron said he had spoken to Lebanon's president and prime minister, urging efforts to prevent the country from descending into chaos. He called on Hezbollah to halt its actions and urged Israel to abandon plans for a large-scale offensive and end air strikes. Lebanon entered the conflict last week after Iran-backed Hezbollah attacked Israel following the killing of Ali Khamenei in US-Israeli strikes, raising fears of wider regional escalation.

SECRET MISSILE PROJECT THAT ONCE UNITED ISRAEL & IRAN

SHYAM BHATIA
Veteran journalist based in London, author of The Quiet Correspondent

IRANIAN missiles threatening Gulf governments, US military bases and Israel have become one of the most dangerous weapons in the West Asia. Yet the origins of that missile threat lie in a secret weapons programme funded by Tehran and developed by Israeli scientists during the final years of the Shah. In one of the West Asia's most striking historical ironies, the missile confrontation now shaping the region began with a covert Israeli–Iranian partnership.

Less than half a century ago, Iranian officers travelled to Israel to watch the launch of an Israeli missile in the Negev desert. The test was part of a secret joint programme known as Project Flower, an ambitious effort to develop advanced missile systems.

Today Iran and Israel are bitter adversaries. Yet, during the late 1970s they were quietly cooperating on military technology whose legacy still echoes in the region's security crises. The existence of the programme first surfaced in investigative reporting during the 1980s and has since been confirmed by later historical findings. Subsequent research confirmed that the collaboration was real. According to the RAND study Israel and Iran: A Dangerous Rivalry, "in 1977, Iran and Israel began a joint missile development project known as Project Flower."

The project formed part of a wider strategic relationship between the two states during the Cold War. Before the fall of the Shah, Israel and Iran maintained extensive economic, intelligence and military contacts. As the RAND study notes, "before the 1979 revolution, Israel and Iran maintained close military, intelligence, and economic ties." Historians have long emphasised the depth of that partnership. As Trita Parsi writes in Treacherous Alliance, "For Israel, Iran under the Shah represented its most important strategic partner in the region." Project Flower was more than a symbolic gesture. It involved substantial Iranian funding for Israeli research. According to RAND, Tehran "reportedly paid approximately $300 million in cash and another $250 million in oil for the joint program." That meant oil revenues from the Shah's Iran were helping finance Israeli missile development.

Under the plan, Israeli engineers would lead missile development while Iran would finance the programme and eventually host production facilities. Plans included the construction of a missile assembly plant near Sirjan in central Iran and testing facilities elsewhere in the country

The arrangement reflected the strategic realities of the 1970s. Israel faced diplomatic isolation and energy pressures from Arab states, while Iran was flush with oil money and eager to modernise its armed forces. Each side offered what the other lacked: Israeli technological expertise and Iranian financial resources. The collaboration illustrates how fluid alliances in the West Asia can be. Under Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, Iran was one of Israel's most important regional partners. The two governments shared intelligence, traded oil and quietly coordinated against common geopolitical concerns, including Soviet influence and hostile Arab regimes.

The relationship formed part of Israel's broader strategic effort to cultivate alliances with non-Arab powers in the region. As nuclear historian Avner Cohen writes in Israel and the Bomb, "Iran was Israel's most important partner in its strategy of alliances with non-Arab states on the periphery of the West Asia."

The closeness of the relationship has also been highlighted by intelligence historians. As journalist and historian Ronen Bergman writes in Rise and Kill First, "Iran under the Shah was Israel's closest ally in the West Asia."

Israel had already begun developing advanced missile systems as part of its strategic deterrent programme, including work linked to the Jericho missile. Iran, meanwhile, was engaged in one of the largest military build-ups in the developing world, financed by the oil boom of the 1970s. Project Flower was designed to merge these ambitions.

Under the plan, Israeli engineers would lead missile development while Iran would finance the programme and eventually host production facilities. Plans included the construction of a missile assembly plant near Sirjan in central Iran and testing facilities elsewhere in the country.

Iranian engineers and technicians were expected to participate in the project, exposing them to the workings of a sophisticated missile development programme. The partnership was short-lived.

In early 1979 the Iranian monarchy collapsed amid mass protests and political upheaval. The Iranian Revolution replaced the monarchy with the Islamic Republic under Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. The new regime severed ties with Israel and cancelled the missile project almost immediately.

As the RAND study later concluded, "the Iranian Revolution ended the cooperation between Israel and Iran." Over the following decades Iran developed one of the largest missile arsenals in the West Asia. Much of that capability emerged during and after the Iran–Iraq war, when Tehran acquired Soviet-designed Scud missiles and later developed its own missile programme with foreign assistance.

Today, Iranian missiles can strike targets across the West Asia, threatening Israel, US military installations and Gulf Arab states. Israel meanwhile has continued developing advanced missile systems and missile defence technologies. The episode reflects a broader pattern in the history of technology: knowledge acquired in one political era often reappears in another.

The story has an echo of Wernher von Braun, the rocket scientist whose expertise developed in Nazi Germany later became central to the American missile and space programmes. Iranian engineers involved in Project Flower were exposed to sophisticated missile development methods long before Iran built its own arsenal.

The revolution ended the partnership, but experience gained during that collaboration may have influenced Iran's later efforts to develop missile technology.

The Israeli–Iranian alliance also left a lasting intelligence legacy. During the Shah's rule, Israeli intelligence operated extensively inside Iran and maintained close working relations with the country's security services.

Israeli advisers trained parts of Iran's security service, giving Israel rare access to the country's ruling elite and detailed insight into its military and security system.

संजय गांधी स्नातकोत्तर आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, लखनऊ
Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences
Raebareli Road Lucknow-226014(U.P.)
Ph:0522-2495842,2494095,Website:www.sgpgi.ac.in

Corrigendum (Advt.No.I/56/ Contract Cell/Online Exam. Various Services/2025-26)

Please refer our Expression of Interest (EOI) advertisement published on 14 th March 2026 . In the 2nd last paragraph at the bottom the EOI ref. no.read as I/51 instead of EOI ref. no. 1/51. The advertisement no. should also be read as I/56 instead of 1/56. Rest matter remain the same.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Smt. Shanthamma.H W/o Yadava Ramakrishna R/a. # 6, 1st Cross, Nanjamba Agrahara, Bangalore South.

We hereby declare that my client has Lost the below mentioned Original Title deeds Near LIC HFL, Yelahanka Branch, on 14th March 2026.

The Document of title Original Title deeds with respect to Site No.4, Khatha No.87/15/04 measuring (24×45) feet situated at Maragondanahalli village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, bearing Doc No.7870/2015-16 dated 30/11/2015, registered in the office of the SRO, Devanahalli, Further Police complaint has been lodged on 14/03/2026 in Online bearing Lost Report.No.2108938/2026 to this effect which has been duly acknowledged. The above Public Notice is now issued. Any person having claim/in possession of the said document may represent to the under signed within **14 days** failing which it will be taken that there are no claims.

A.Prashanth, Advocate
No.3755, SAMPRATHI, DESHADAPETE
Doddaballapur Town-561203. Mob : 9886628181.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that my client **Mrs. Leela P.M., W/o. Mr. N. Raghu,** Residing at No.405, Sonnappanahalli, Bettahalsur, Bangalore – 562 157 is the absolute owner in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the property bearing Site No.142/A, Khatha No.BMP/REV/2005-06/KE/110013, PID No.2-109-2, along with Ground and First Floor, 1800 Sq. feet RCC Roofed house, situated at 4th Cross, Sundarnagar, (Gokul Extension), Bangalore – 560 054, measuring east to west 45 feet and north to south 35 feet, totally measuring 1575 Sq. feet. My client has lost the following Original Document: - 01. Sale Deed dated 09.05.1969 registered on 12.05.1969 in the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangalore as Document No.436/1969-70 of Book No.1, Volume 2690 at Pages 96-100 executed by Sri. M.S. Ramaiah in favour of Smt. B.N. Anusuya.

If anybody find the aforesaid documents, please hand over to me or please contact by Phone: 9449787984 or Email: lekharajt@gmail.com.

Lekharaj T B.A.L., LLB ,Advocate
Chambers: No. 7, 3rd Floor, Kasturi Apartment, 35/11, Langford Road Cross, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru – 560 025. Mob; 9449787984, Email: lekharajt@gmail.com

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I AT BENGALURU
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Bengaluru - 560 002
O. A. No.1444/2023

Between: Union Bank of India, By its Authorised Officer ....Applicant
And
M/s. A. V. Infostructure, represented by its Proprietor **and Others** ...Defendants

SUMMONS/NOTICE TO DEFENDANT/S ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

Whereas, an Application for impleadment has been made to this Tribunal praying for impleadment of additional defendants. This is to give you notice towards the same. Take notice that this said application will be taken up for next hearing by the Tribunal on **08.04.2026 at 10.30 A.M.** or at such time immediately thereafter according to the convenience of the Tribunal on 08.04.2026.

You are required to appear in person or by a pleader/ Advocate duly insturcted at the aforesaid time and file your reply if any.

Take notice that in defalut of your appearance on the day mentioned herein before the proceeding will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on 27.02.2026

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal , Bangalore - 560 002

To:
i) Smt. Prathima Hebbar, D/o. Sri Somashekara Hebbar , No. A1-016, Century Commanders Vista, Attur Layout, Ramanashree California Resort, Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560 064.
Also at : ii) Flat No. 1 E08, E- Block , 1st Floor, Dwellington Residential Complex, Chikkanagamangala Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099.
Also at :
(iii) Progress Partner, Quantum Leap Learning Solutions Pvt Ltd., No. 86, 3rd Floor, Subhodaya,Railway parallel Road, Kumarapark West, Bengaluru - 560 020.
...Defendant-5

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client **MR. JAYAKUMAR. B** S/O BHASKARAN NAIR, Aged About 63 Years, Residing at No.774, 1st Block, 4th Main, HAL 3rd Stage, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560075, is the present owner of property, the Original Possession Certificate Dated 28-10-1976, PR No.24/1976-77, and Bearing Site No.774, Block No. HAL III Stage, issued by BDA and ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT LETTER DATED 10-11-1975 has been lost/misplaced while travelling by bus on date 04-03-2026 at Indira Nagar. Thereafter he could not trace and retrieve the same. A Complaint is filed on 14/03/2026 in jurisdictional police, if anyone found the original documents kindly contact within 7 days from the date this publication or is in possession please hand over the same at the office address given below.

K. SUNDARAM Advocate
No.24/2, Alfred Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore-25 Mob : 9341247776

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Smt. Chandala Bai Vishwanath Rao D/o Vishwanth Rao R/a. #171, Allalasandra Main Road, Near Maruthi Temple, Bangalore North.

We hereby declare that my client has Lost the below mentioned Original Title deeds Near Canfin Homes ltd, Sahakaranagar Branch, on 14th March 2026.

The Document of title Original Title deeds with respect to Northern Portion of Khaneshumari No.176, BBMP Khatha No.178/176/A measuring (40×30) feet situated at Allalasandra Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North, bearing Doc No.2347/2016-17 dated 03/09/2016, registered in the office of the SRO, Gandhinagar, Further Police complaint has been lodged on 14/03/2026 in Online bearing Lost Report.No.2108960/2026 to this effect which has been duly acknowledged. The above Public Notice is now issued. Any person having claim/in possession of the said document may represent to the under signed within 07 days failing which it will be taken that there are no claims.

A.Prashanth, Advocate
No.3755, SAMPRATHI, DESHADAPETE
Doddaballapur Town-561203. Mob : 9886628181.

WESTERN RAILWAY
SIGNALLING WORK

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer (South), 2nd Floor, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400 008, invites **E-Tender No.: SG_217_2_313_WA, Dated: 10.03.2026. Name of Work**: Churchgate -Virar section: Signalling work in connection with Augmentation of platforms to accommodate 15 CAR EMU at Vile Parle, Khar Road, Santacruz and Bandra Stations of Down and UP Local Lines (Slow Lines) of Mumbai Division Western Railway. **Approx. Cost of Work**: ₹ 5,48,76,189.70. **EMD**: ₹ 4,24,400/-. **Time & Date for closure for submission of E-Tender**: Till 02.04.2026, 15:00 hrs. **Time & Date for opening of E-Tender**: On 02.04.2026 at 15:30 hrs. For further details please visit our website www.ireps.gov.in 1216
Like us on: facebook.com/WesternRly

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL AT BENGALURU (DRT-II)
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
In the matter of
Case O. A. No.683/2022

Between: M/s. Karnataka Bank Ltd., Ashoknagara Branch, Bengaluru. ....Applicant
And
Bagish Balakrishnan and Others ...Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993 TO THE DEFENDANTS

Whereas, the Applicant Bank has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against you for the recovery of sum of **Rs.90,22,375/-** (Rupees Ninety Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Three Hundred and Seventy Five Only) as on 05.04.2022 together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

You are hereby required to show-cause within 30 days from the date of publication of the summons on or before **16.04.2026 at 10:30 a.m.** in person or by a Pleader/ Advocate duly instructed as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on 09.03.2026

By Order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore

Defendants:
2)Bagish Balakrishnan, S/o. Balakrishnan K. K. Aged about 36 years, R/ At : No. 3/336- Padikkal Meethal Sona Nilayam, Muttungal Post, Kozikode, Kerala- 673 106.
3) Sreejesh C., S/o. Damodharan C. V. Aged about 46 years, R/ At : No. 2, 3rd Floor, 1063/A, 7th 'A' Main Road, 3rd Block, Kormangala, Bangalore - 560 034.

TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD
Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

Specification No.	Tender Inviting Authority	Name of the Work
T.68	CE / Civil / Transmission	Erection of 230/110 KV associated transmission lines at Kongalnagaram 230 /110 KV SS including cost of all materials under total turnkey contract-GEC-II.

For details of works / Procurement / Due date of submission / opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites: **www.tantransco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app** DIPR/1790/Tender/2026

20% Of employees will be laid off by Meta to offset costly artificial intelligence infrastructure bets and prepare for greater efficiency brought about by AI-assisted workers.

Now, Akasa levies fuel surcharge

Revised charge will be applicable from today as airline claims ATF sees notable price rise

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

AFTER Air India and IndiGo, Akasa Air has announced that it will introduce a fuel surcharge to offset the impact of rising jet fuel prices.

The low-cost airline has introduced a fuel surcharge ranging from ₹199 to ₹1,300 on our domestic and international routes for all bookings that will be made from 12 am on March 15. "There has been a significant increase in the price of aviation turbine fuel (ATF), driven by evolving geopolitical developments in the Middle East. As fuel represents a significant portion of airline operating costs, this impacts the cost of operations across the aviation industry," said a spokesperson from Akasa Air.

IATA's Jet Fuel Monitor indicates over 85% increase in fuel prices for the region. Jet fuel is the biggest expense for airlines, accounting for 30% to 40% of total operating costs.

It will be applied per sector and will vary based on the duration of the flight.

"At Akasa Air, we remain focused on offering warm and efficient customer service, reliable operations, and affordable fares while maintaining the highest standards of operational efficiency. We will continue to closely monitor the operating environment and review the fuel surcharge on a regular basis," said the spokesperson.

IndiGo on Friday announced introducing a fuel surcharge between ₹399 and ₹2,300 for its domestic and international flights. While offsetting the entire impact of this fuel price surge requires a very substantial adjustment to fares, IndiGo has introduced a relatively smaller amount as a fuel charge keeping in mind the consequential burden on customers, said the airline.

Earlier this week, Air India had also announced an increase in fuel surcharge of ₹399 to ₹4,600 ($50) amid the ongoing conflict in West Asia.

Ever since tension escalated in West Asia after the US and Israeli forces targeted key Iranian sites on February 28, oil and gas prices have seen a sharp surge. Brent crude prices have surpassed the $100/barrel mark following the continued closure of the Strait of Hormuz, limited storage facilities in the producer countries and the attacks on oil & gas infrastructure and vessels.

According to industry figures, jet fuel prices in many markets have doubled since the conflict began. In recent sessions, jet fuel prices are hovering between $150 and $200 per barrel, up from $85 to $90 per barrel before the war. Aviation turbine fuel accounts for 35-40% of airline industries' operational cost.

Jet fuel prices are hovering between **$150** and **$200** per barrel, up from **$85 to $90** before the war

No need to import petrol, diesel: Govt

PUSHPITA DEY @ New Delhi

INDIA has enough capacity to meet the domestic demand, and there is no need to import petrol and diesel as the refineries are working in full capacity, assured the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on Saturday. It even urged the people not to go for panic buying.

"Sufficient quantities of petrol and diesel are available and there is no report of dry out. As per the needs of the country, we yield ample quantities of petrol and diesel. That's why there is no need to import too," said Sujata Sharma, joint secretary (Marketing & Oil Refinery), Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, during a press conference.

The Ministry also issued an advisory asking people not to take or store fuel in loose or inappropriate containers, as it poses serious safety risks. It has come to notice that in a pump in Tamil Nadu, petrol was reportedly being dispensed in a loose container at a retail outlet, which violates safety norms.

Petrol and diesel prices in India remained unchanged despite global crude oil markets continuing to witness sharp volatility. Recent volatility in crude oil prices has been linked to geopolitical tensions in West Asia, with concerns growing over potential supply disruptions through the Strait of Hormuz, a key global oil transit route.

Even oil companies like IOCL confirmed a couple of days ago that fuel supply across the country remains uninterrupted and assured that all its fuel stations nationwide are fully operational and adequate stocks of petrol, diesel and other petroleum products are available.

NEWSCOPE

AMID SLOWDOWN, ONLY ARMS EXPORT IS RISING

GURBIR SINGH

AMID war conditions and a global slump, the one trade which is surging is arms exports. No prizes if you guessed it right. The latest Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report, released this month in March, reveals arms exports grew 10% globally. It also shows Europe is rearming fast, and that Russia lagged behind.

Despite a small dip of 4% in imports, India remained the world's second largest arms purchaser with 8.2% of the global share for the last five years 2021-25, compared to the previous 2016-2020 period. The big shift though is the cutback of imports from Russia — to 40%, from 51% for 2016-20. In the reshuffle, Russia's loss has been France's gain (29%) and Israel (15%). The SIPRI data shows how the new wars have reshaped the world's arms flow. Ukraine, which is fighting for its survival against a Russian takeover, became the highest importer of weapons in 2021-25 accounting for 9.7% of the global share. In the earlier 2016-20 period, it was just 0.1%.

Europe is rearming

More importantly, the Ukraine war has reshaped the profile of Europe's arms industry. Post second World War, North Atlantic Treaty Alliance (NATO), led by the United States, was considered Western Europe's defence umbrella against incursions from the East.

However, with Donald Trump backsliding on Ukraine and Greenland, the math on the ground has changed.

While the global arms exports rose 9.2%, for the European nations arms imports more than tripled in the last 5 years, most of it going towards shoring Ukraine's defences against the Russian invasion. By now, total European aid to Ukraine — military, financial and humanitarian — is in the region of $200 billion, and surpasses what the U.S. has contributed. Much of the European arms transfers are high-end US equipment like Patriot antiballistic defense systems, and paid for with European money. "Taken together, the arms exports of the 27 current EU member states went up by 36%," says the SIPRI report. That is a faster growth rate than the US' 27% over the same period, and China's 11%.

The looming threat of Russia, together with Donald Trump proving to be an unreliable ally, has propelled the EU nations to arm themselves and stand on their own feet. The crisis over US' bullying of Denmark and threatening the takeover of Greenland has only exacerbated Fortress Europe.

German Chancellor Frierich Merz and France's premier Emmanuel Macron have called for increased military spending by the EU nations. In recent months Europe has invested $175bn into Security Action for Europe (SAFE), a low-cost loan programme given to member states that buy weapons from other member states. About two-thirds of this fund is already allocated to member states. Predictably, shares of European arms manufacturers — BAE Systems, the UK, Rheinmetall Germany which produces the high tech Leopard tanks and Dassault Aviation, France — have shot through the roof.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

Russia lags behind

The most significant change in SIPRI's data is the 64% fall in Russia's arms export — its global share has fallen from 21% in the 2016-20 period to just 6.8% in the last five years. Two factors contributed to this scenario. The Ukraine war has ensured Russia now produces for its its own frontline; and two, client states that bought Russian gear have come to learn Russian equipment is clunky and unreliable.

The SIPRI figures show India too has shifted away considerably from Russia, and has instead opted for Western sources like France, Israel and the U.S. India has also embarked on a 'Make in India' drive focusing on boosting indigenisation of arms production. Though local production grew three-fold from ₹46,429 crore in 2014-15 to over ₹1.27 lakh crore in 2023-24, local manufacture accounts for tertiary equipment and small parts, while hi-tech equipment continues to be imported. India thus continues to be the world's second biggest arms importer with a share of 8.2%.

In recent years, France has become the go-to option for India and has been delivering Rafale fighter jets, and Scorpene class submarines.

There has also been a distinct policy change in favour of Israel. Today, Israel is India's fourth largest arms supplier providing a range of equipment from air defense systems Barak-8 and Spyder, drones, Spice 2000 and Rampage missiles and a range of infantry assault rifles.

France and China are coming up as big arms exporters but, among merchants of death, none can rival the United States. It has the world's largest arms expenditure by far, growing from $935 billion in 2024 to $980 billion in 2025.

SIPRI's 2024 data shows among the world's Top 10 arms contractors, the U.S. holds 6 slots, including the Top 3: Lockheed Martin Corp ($64.7 billion), RTX (formerly Raytheon Technologies) ($43.6 billion) and Northrop Grumman Corp. ($37.85 billion).

The latest SIPRI report shows the U.S. accounts for a massive 42% share of the global arms export trade for the years 2021-25. It's exports grew by 27% in this period, making it the dominant supplier to over a 100 countries, and it is 4 times larger than the next in line, France. As long as the Ukraine war and the Iran conflict continue, business will be booming. It will also be good times after the shooting stops, as it will be the pause to rearm.

FRESH SCRUTINY

USTR probe to target electronics, garment exports

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

INDIA'S exports of solar panels, electronics and garments to the US may face increased scrutiny under a new US investigation into forced labour in global supply chains, according to the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI).

The move follows the decision by the Office of the USTR to launch investigations under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 covering around 60 economies, including India and China. It will examine whether countries allow goods produced using forced labour to enter global supply chains and eventually reach the US. It will also look at cases where import inputs suspected of being produced with forced labour and use them for exports.

GTRI said several Indian export sectors may be affected because they depend heavily on imported components from China. Electronics exports could also be examined because Indian manufacturers depend on Chinese components, cables and sub-assemblies. Similarly, the textile and garment sector may face tighter checks as manufacturers frequently use imported yarns and fabrics from China.

Remain patient, extreme volatility is not new: Pandey

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey on Saturday urged investors to remain patient and not to panic amid tension in West Asia.

He added that episodes of extreme volatility are not new and the markets have historically recovered after major global disruptions.

It can be noted that since the war on Iran began on February 28, the markets have lost more than 8%, the second worst after the Japanese Nikkei which lost 8.5% in the past 13 days.

While the Sensex lost 8.3%, the broader Nifty is down 8.1%, wiping out ₹34 lakh crore of investors' wealth in the past two weeks. This selloff has pulled down the BSE market capitalisation to ₹429.4 lakh crore.

Since the war began, foreign investors have sold shares worth ₹64,500 crore, this is on the back of another ₹40,000 crore between January and February and $18.9 billion in the previous calendar year.

"One lesson becomes clear: periods of extreme volatility don't last forever and investors must remain patient. In the past we've witnessed disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war. Markets witness turbulence, but they eventually stabilise," the Sebi chief said at an event.

According to the regulator, the resilience of markets is tested during periods of extreme uncertainty, but efficiency and transparency allow them to recover and that market volatility from geopolitical tensions eventually stabilises even as he admitted that markets face turbulence from geopolitics, energy shocks and AI disruption.

EXPRESS READ

JSW Steel launches coal project in Mozambique

NEW DELHI: JSW Steel will develop Minas de RevuboA¨ coking coal mine in Mozambique in phases, it said. Minas de RevuboA¨ has 850 MT of reserves, and potential to yield 250 MT of usable coking coal.

Centre amends power norms for industries

NEW DELHI: The government on Saturday announced amendments in the electricity norms for bringing more clarity for captive power generation, especially for industries, in line with India's energy transition goals.

I-T dept errs on taxpayers' info, makes amends

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Income Tax Department was left red-faced, after it sent inaccurate details to taxpayers about their significant transactions under its ongoing advance tax-e-campaign for Assessment Year 2026-27 (Financial Year 2025-26). The department on Saturday issued an official clarification after several taxpayers reported receiving emails with inaccurate details. The Department acknowledged the error and thanked taxpayers for bringing it to their attention, expressing regret over the inconvenience caused.

In an official statement, the Department confirmed that it is actively working with its service provider to resolve the issue and has urged taxpayers to disregard the earlier email communications until the matter is resolved.

Officials were quick to clarify that the e-campaign communications are intended solely as facilitative reminders, designed to help taxpayers review their financial information on the Compliance Portal and ensure proper advance tax compliance — not as any form of notice or action.

Taxpayers have been advised to independently verify their transaction details through the e-Campaign tab on the Compliance Portal, which is accessible via the e-Filing portal.

Meanwhile, tax experts have raised concern over the reliability of automated tax communications.

"In an era where tax administration is increasingly driven by advanced digital systems, data analytics and real-time compliance monitoring, such errors should ideally be minimal," says Rajat Mohan, senior partner, AMRG & Associates.

He says that incorrect communications relating to significant transactions can create unnecessary anxiety among taxpayers and professionals who rely on these alerts to ensure accurate advance tax compliance.

In an era where tax administration is increasingly driven by advanced digital systems, data analytics and real-time compliance monitoring, such errors should ideally be minimal — Rajat Mohan of AMRG & Associates

CISF unit of Paradip Port authority celebrates 57th Raising Day

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Unit of Paradip Port Authority (PPA) celebrated its 57th Raising Day at the CISF Complex in Paradip with enthusiasm and pride. PL Haranadh, Chairman, Paradip Port Authority, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and took the salute from the marching contingents during the ceremonial parade. Haranadh said that the CISF for its indispensable contribution to the port's unprecedented growth and outlined an ambitious vision for its future as a global "Mega Port." The port achieved a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of approximately 9% over the last four years, doubling the national average.

SBI regional office Cuttack organised International Women's Day

The State Bank of India in Cuttack organized the International Women's Day celebration in a local hotel here. On this occasion, the General Manager of SBI Bhubaneswar Circle, Dr Vandana Aggarwal, attended as the Chief Guest, while DGM Prashant Kumar joined as the Guest of Honour. During the programme, several women who have achieved recognition in different fields participated in the event. The programme also highlighted various services and initiatives provided by SBI to empower women and make them self-reliant. Dr. Lucy Das, Dean and Principal of SCB Medical College and social worker Kabita Mohapatra shared their long professional experiences and spoke about the empowerment and advancement of women.

Business & Beyond

Policybazaar holds fifth edition of its flagship event with Star Health

Policybazaar's flagship event 'Insurance Ka Superhero' successfully concluded its fifth edition in Chennai on Tuesday. Organised in association with Star Health Insurance, the event championed the brand's long-standing commitment to fair and transparent claim settlements. It brought together heartfelt stories behind every successful claim and honoured the 'Superheroes' who made it happen along with the support of our insurer partners. In its partnership with Star Health Insurance, Policybazaar has assisted over 1.7 lakh families over a course of five years. The brand has successfully helped process claims worth 620 crores, and holds a stellar CSAT of ~90% when it comes to customer satisfaction. All of these efforts are concentrated towards the single mission of strengthening consumer trust with positive claims experiences in the industry.

NMDC reaches 50 million tonnes of iron ore production

NMDC Limited, India's largest iron ore producer and a Navratna CPSE, has scripted history by becoming the first mining company in India to produce 50 million tonnes (MT) of iron ore in a single financial year, a significant milestone that comes days ahead of the close of FY 2025–26. Established in 1958 to develop iron ore resources, NMDC produced around 10 MT in 1978. Over the decades, output has expanded fivefold to reach a historic 50 MT in FY 2025–26, reflecting the company's steady transfor-mation into the backbone of India's iron ore supply chain. NMDC's rise to the 50-million-tonne mark also underscores a sharp acceleration in growth in recent years.

Punjab & Sind Bank expands footprint in Odisha

Strengthening its presence in Odisha and reaffirming its commitment to financial inclusion, Punjab & Sind Bank inaugurated its new branch at Balangir. The branch was inaugurated by MD & CEO Swarup Kumar Saha, during his visit to the state. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Saha highlighted the bank's strong commitment towards expanding its banking network in Odisha and providing greater access to financial services. He emphasised that the opening of the Balangir branch is part of the bank's broader strategy to deepen its presence in emerging regions and contribute to the state's economic growth.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY / e-Tender Notice
Tender No : KWA-JB/2113/2026-E11

RENEWAL of TAILOR MADE GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY FOR KERALA WATER AUTHORITY EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS for the year 2026 - 27
EMD : Rs. 0
Tender fee : Rs. 0
Last Date for submitting Tender : 28-03-2026 03:00:pm, Phone : 9746126729
Website: **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
KWA-JB-GL-6-793-2025-26 Chief Engineer (HRD&Gl.) Jalabhavan, Thiruvananthapuram

Kerala State IT Mission
Department of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of Kerala.
Website: https://itmission.kerala.gov.in/

e-Tender Notice

Tenders are invited for the following works:
1. Appointment of System Integrator (SI) for Implementation of State Data Exchange Platform for the Government of Kerala(Re-Tender)
Tender ID: 2026_KSITM_828799_2
Tender Reference No: **e-Governan/5/2025-KSITM**
2. Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of IT/Network devices at State Data Center(Re-Tender)
Tender ID: 2026_KSITM_847472_1
Tender Reference No. SDC/15/2019-KSITM

Detailed Notification and RFP documents can be downloaded from **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in/**

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
STATE INSTITUTE OF HOTEL MANAGEMENT
TITILAGARH ROAD,BALANGIR - 767001 (ODISHA)

No. 1249/SIHM/2025-26/E-Tender **Date: 13.03.2026**

E-tender invited by SIHM, Balangir under a two-bid system from established Dealers/Manufacturers/Distributors/Firms registered in India for the supply, installation and commissioning of Single Disc Machine with Pad Holder and Pad different color & Scrubbing Brush, Automatic Scrubber Drier with Brush, Pad Holder & Pad, Steam Generator with Accessories, Dry & Wet Vacuum Cleaner (33 l) with Accessories, Dry & Wet Vacuum Cleaner (62 l) with Accessories and Mop Wringer Trolley at SIHM, Balangir for the Academic Session 2025-26.

Interested parties may kindly visit the below mentioned website for further details
www.tenderwizard.com/SIHM or www.sihmbalangir.org

Sd/-
Principal

ಸಹಾಯಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಹುಣಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಹುಣಸೂರು
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಅಸಂ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್–01/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.03.2026

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ–2000 ರಂತೆ, ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರ ಅವಗಾಹನೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, 2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಹುಣಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ವಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹುಣಸೂರು ಆನೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಡೆ ಘಟಕಕ್ಕೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವ ನೌಕರರನ್ನು (ಗಣಕಯಂತ್ರ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರು, ವಾಹನ ಚಾಲಕರು, ಡಿ ಗ್ರೂಪ್ ನೌಕರರು, ಕಾವಲುಗಾರರು) ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ, ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಷರತ್ತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿ: 18.03.2026 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. 2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 20.03.2026 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. 3) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 20.03.2026 ರಂದು 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳ ಸಹಿದಾರರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಅಥವಾ ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಸಹಾಯಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ,
ಹುಣಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಹುಣಸೂರು

DIPR/DDMYS/1822/KSMCA/1230/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is intending to purchase the schedule property from **Sri. SANDEEP M.S.** S/o. Sri. M.M.Srinivasa, AADHAR No. xxxx xXXX 1271 and **Smt.USHA R.** W/o. Sri.M.S.Sandeep, **PAN : ACGPU2453H,** Both are residing at: No.79, Nariyandada, Cheyandane, Kodugu- 571212. Any person/banking institutions/company, etc., has got any sort of legal right, claim, interest over the schedule property or having any sort of objection for the said sale transaction, shall approach the under mentioned Advocate within **7 days** from this day, with documentary evidence, failing which my client shall proceed further in accordance with the terms of the agreement to sell considering there is no objection to the said sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing residential vacant **Site No. 1149/A,** comprised within the layout Formed by the Bangalore Development Authority in **4th H Block, Banashankari 6th Stage, layout** Known as **"Banashankari Further Extension",** formed in Sy. No. 3/2, U.M. Kaval Village, Bangalore South Taluk and presently within the administrative jurisdiction of BDA having **E PID No.6000061834** and measuring East to West **12.00 Mtrs** and North to South **(9.00+7.00)/2 mtrs.,** in all measuring **96.00 Sq. Mtrs.** together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface including all the rights and privileges thereon and bounded on:

AND BOUNDED ON:
East by : Road, West by : Site No. 1148/B., North by : Road, South by : Site No. 1149.

N.S. SHIVASHANKAR, Advocate
No. 207, Ground Floor,
26th Cross, Behind BWSSB Office,
Uttarahalli- Kengeri Main Road
Poorna Prajna Nagar, Bengaluru-560061.
Ph No. 93430 94442, 98459 31901

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client intends to purchase the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** from its owner **Mr.Sridhar Kamineni, Mr.R.V.Rama Mohan Reddy and Mr.K.Hemanth Reddy.**

Persons/banks/society/firm or any other body having any right, title, interest, claim or charge over the schedule mentioned property or any part thereof is hereby notified to lodge their objections/claims if any, in writing with documentary evidence regarding their manner of right, title, interest, claim or charge, within **10 days** from the date of this publication to the office of undersigned, after which period my client shall proceed to purchase the schedule mentioned property on the basis that there are no objections/-claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the schedule mentioned property.

SCHEDULE

ALL that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing **Site No. 5C-513, BBMP E Katha bearing No. 88-254-5C-513,** HRBR Layout, II Block, Presently BBMP **Ward No. 88,** Bangalore City, Measuring East to West 50 Ft., North to South 80 Ft., Totally measuring 4000 Sq. Ft., together with building standing thereon consisting Two Rooms, Hall, Kitchen, Toilet, built up area 2200 Sq. Ft., in Ground Floor and One Room, Toilet, built up area 500 Sq. Ft., in First Floor with RCC Roof, Mosaic Flooring, Honne Wood Doors and Windows with AEH and Sanitary Connection Bounded on the: **East by :** Site No. 5C/515. **West by :** Site No. 5C/511. **North by :** Site No. 5AC/514. **South by :** 5th Cross Road.

LEGAL & LEGAL, ADVOCATES,
No.32, Rukmani's Brindavanam,
1st Cross, 1st Main, Subramani Layout,
Ramamurthynagar,
Vijinapura, Bengaluru-560 016
Mob: 9900111844, 7406234888.

BEFORE THE ARBITRATOR

UNDER SEC. 84 OF THE MULTI STATE COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES ACT 2002
A.R.C. No.588/2025

The Repatriates Cooperative Finance & Development Bank Ltd., called as 'REPCO BANK', ...Petitioner

- Vs -

1. Sri. S. Kannan, S/o. Sundaresh
2. Smt. K. Latha, W/o. S. Kannan
3. Sri. D. Bernad, S/o C. Dass

... Respondents

NOTICE THROUGH PUBLICATION

To
1. Sri. S Kannan, S/o Sundaresh, No. 268, 3rd Cross, Baiyappanahalli Extension, Indranagar, Bangalore - 560 038.
2. Smt. K. Latha, W/o S. Kannan, **Both Address at:** No. 33/2, 2nd Main Road, Old Baiyappanahalli, Maruthi Seva Nagar, Bangalore - 560 033.
3. Sri. D. Bernad, S/o. C. Dass, No. 209, Mary Dass Compound, 7th Cross, New Baiyappanahalli Extension, Bangalore - 560 038.

Whereas the Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank Ltd., called as 'REPCO BANK' has filed a Claim Petition in A.R.C. No.588/2025 against you, the Respondents for recovery of the Claim amount of Rs.40,88,117/- (Rupees Forty Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand One Hundred and Seventeen Only) as on 30.11.2025 along with further interest thereon.

You, the Respondents were summoned and directed to appear on various dates i.e. on 04.02.2026 & 03.03.2026 and to show cause as to why the Claim should not be allowed and to answer all material questions relating to the Claim Petition. Either, the said notices were returned without being served or in spite of receipt of the notices sent by registered post, you failed to appear before me to answer the claim of the petitioner.

You are therefore directed to appear on **08th day of April 2026 at 11.00 a.m. at ARBITRATION CENTRE, No. 18, C.P. Ramasamy Road, Alwarpet, Chennai - 600 018** as the date fixed for hearing of the Claim Petition; in order to support your proposed stand.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the above said Hearing date, this ARC claim will be heard and decided in accordance to law and Award will be passed on merits.

Given under my hand and seal of this office on this the 3rd day of March 2026.

Sd/-
(R. MALA)
Signature of the Arbitrator

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client **Sri. M.B. Mohan,** S/o Late. M.V. Balaji Rao is the absolute owner of the property more fully described in the Schedule having acquired it under a Gift Deed dated 03/08/2017 registered in the Office of Sub Registrar, Jayanagar as No. JAY-1-04047-2017-18, in Book – I, Stored in CD No. JAYD – 302.

It is informed by my clients, that the Allotment letter No. BG/1614/SRK II PH/79-80 dated 12/12/1979 issued by Bangalore Development Authority is irretrievably lost. Further, Sri M.B. Mohan has lodged a police complaint on 12/03/2026 and obtained E – Lost Report regarding the loss of documents. Further, Sri M.B. Mohan has obtained a copy of the Allotment letter under RTI Act.

If anyone finds the above page of the document, or if anyone is having this document in their custody, the same may be handed over to the undersigned within Fifteen days from the date of publication of this Public Notice. If any person or persons or financial institution or Bank has any claim over the schedule property or any person or persons claim any right, title or interest, over the schedule property, the same may be lodged with the undersigned within **Fifteen days** from today, along with relevant claim documents, failing which, it will be presumed that the schedule property is free from any such claim and any claim received thereafter will not bind my clients and would not be considered by my client.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Residential House bearing No. 1614, situated at J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 9.14 Meters and North to South: 12.19 Meters, totally measuring 111.4166 Square Meters, along with a building in ground and first floor (Duplex) now coming under BBMP and bounded on the: **East by:** Site No. 1613, **West by:** Site No. 1615, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No. 1617

J.N. ALASINGAR, Advocate
193, 5th Main Road, 3rd Phase, J.P. Nagar,
Bangalore- 560 078. Mob: 9900095158.
Dated: 14/03/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public, the Bank of Baroda, Sahakarnagar Branch intends to accept the under mention property standing in the name of 1. Mr. Naveen Kumar B R residing at No. 1467, Sri Veerabadhraswamy Nilaya, B- Block, Sahakarnagar, Bangalore-560092. And
2. Mr. Manjunath Y B residing at No. 2612, 'E' Block, 8th Cross, 15th Main, Near Cauvery School, Sahakarnagar, Bangalore-560092.
as a security for home loan facility requested by them having purchased vide sale deed dated 28.03.2022 bearing Document No. BYP-1-09456-2021-22, CD No. BYPD1081.
In case anyone has got any right/title/interest/claims over the under mentioned property they are advised to approach the Bank within 10 days along with necessary proof to sub stantiate their claim.
If no response is received within 10 days, it is presumed that the property is free of any charge/claim/encumbrance and Bank shall proceed with the mortgage.

Details of property

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No. 14, formed in Sy. No.185/2A, situated at Kodigehalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, converted from agricultural to non- agricultural residential purpose by the D C Bangalore North under the limits of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike bearing B B M P Katha No.1404/668/866/14, Ward No. 9- Vidyaranyapura, measuring East to West: (66'.6' + 67' Feet)/2 and North to South : 40 feet and bounded by:
East By : Private Property,
West By : Road,
North By : Site No.15,
South By : Site No. 13.

Bank of Baroda
Sahakarnagar Branch,
No. 549, F Block, 60 Feet Road,
Sahakarnagar, Bangalore-560092.
M/s. G Mallesha Raju & Associates
No. 29, 3rd Croass, Vinayaka Layout,
Bhoopasandra, Bangalore -560094.
Contact No.9743009222/9916397559

Bank of Baroda

Basaveshwaranagar Branch,
No 18/119, 80 Feet Road, KHB Colony,
Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru- 560079.
Tel: 080-23201561, E-mail: VJBASA@bankofbaroda.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
"APPENDIX- IV-A [See provision to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)]"

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is"**, **"As is what is"**, and **"Whatever there is"** basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower/s/Mortgagor/Guarantor/s/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below -

Sr. lot no.	Name & address of Borrower	Description of the Properties	Total Dues	Date & Time of Auction	Reserve Price EMD Amount Increment amount	Status of Possession (Constructive/ Physical)	Property Inspection date & time
1	**1) Mr T Daniel Francis,** No 18, 2nd Cross Dobbespet, Vasanthnagar, Bangalore North PO, Bangalore GPO, Dist Bengaluru, Karnataka 560001. **2) Mr T Daniel Francis**, No 47, Cantonment Railway Quarters, Benson Town, Bengaluru 560046, Karnataka. **3) Mr T Daniel Francis,** GF 001, Ground Floor, "Sri Sai Kamal Nivas", Deepika Layout, Jayanagar Housing Society Layout, Subramanyapura, Gubbalalu Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore 560061, Karnataka	**SCHEDULE "À":** All that piece and parcel of the residential immovable Property bearing Nos.9, 10, 23 & 24, formed in Sy. No.58/5A, duly converted by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, vide Order Conversion No.BDIS.ALN.SR(S) 288/03-04, dt: 15-11-2003, V.P. Khatha No. 690, situated at GUBBALALU VILLAGE, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently within the limits of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.184, Uttarahalli Sub-Division, Bangalore and the site measuring East to West: Northern side:86-0 feet, Southern side:86.6 feet and North to South: 60-0 feet and totally measuring 5190 Sq. ft., and bounded on the:East by: 30 feet Road,West by: 30 feet Road, North by: Site No.8 & 25,South by Site No.11 & 22. **SCHEDULE 'B':** Description of undivided share773 Square feet of undivided share right, title, interest, claims whatsoever in the land of the Schedule-A Property. **SCHEDULE 'C'**: All that piece and parcel of the residential Apartment bearing Flat No.GF-001, 2 BHK, having BBMP Khatha No.1446/GF-001/747/9, 10, 23, 24 in the Ground Floor of the apartment building known as "SRI SAI KAMAL NIVAS", having super built up area of 1260 Sq. ft. & One Car Parking, with Vitrified tiles flooring, with all civic amenities and with right to use common areas, entrances, staircases, passages, corridors, etc., provided in the Schedule 'A' Property and New E Swattu PID No 8845435080 and bounded on the:East by: Flat No GF 003,West by: 40 Feet Road,North by: Flat No GF 002, South by: Vacant Plot (Private Property)	**Rs 98,28,274/-** (Rupees Ninety-Eight Lakhs Twenty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Four Only) as on Possession Notice dated 23.01.2026 plus interest and other legal charges	**22.04.2026** between 02.00 PM to 06.00 PM	**Rs. 73,50,000/-** **Rs.7,35,000/-** **till 2 PM** **Rs. 50,000/-**	**Symbolic Possession**	With prior appointment from Authorised Officer
2	**1) Mr Nagendra Gaur,** Flat No-B003, B' Block, Ground Floor, "Garudadri Springs" Apartment, Yelachenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru 560078. **2) Mr Nagendra Gaur,** Flat No-B004, 'B' Block, Ground Floor, "Garudadri Springs" Apartment, Yelachenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru 560078. **3) Mr Nagendra Gaur,** Post Mahagupur Dhahar, Hathipur, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh 223223. **4) Mr Nagendra Gaur,** U-34/48, Front Side, 3rd Floor, Sector 24, Gurugram 122010, Haryana. **5) Mr Nagendra Gaur**, 480, 481, 1st Floor, Tower 1, GDC, Udhyog Vihar, Phase-3, Gurugram, Haryana	**PROPERTY NO - 1:** **SCHEDULE "À" PROPERTY:**All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property Khaneshumari No. 169, House list No.26, 27 & 28, Khatha No.240, 243 & 241 (Old No.472) situated at Yelachenahalli village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore. Presently comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP, and bounded on the:East by: Road,West by: Private Layout,North by: Private Property,South by: Layout of Jayanagar Co-operative Society,Measuring East to West: 100 feet, and North to South 182 feet, totally measuring 18,200 Sq.ft. **SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY:** All that piece and parcel of Flat bearing No. B-003 in Ground Floor, B Block, having Three Bed Room, having 1494 Sq.ft., of super built up are in an apartment known GARUDADRI SPRINGS along with 379 Sq.ft., of undivided share in Schedule 'A' Property and along with 2m Car Parking Space.East by: Lift and Flat No B 002,West by: Area Open to Sky,North by: Common Corridor & Flat B 004,South by: Area Open to Sky **PROPERTY NO - 2:** **SCHEDULE "À" PROPERTY**: All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property Khaneshumari No. 169, House list No.26, 27 & 28, Khatha No.240, 243 & 241 (Old No.472) situated at Yelachenahalli village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore. Presently comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP, and bounded on the:East by: Road,West by: Private Layout,North by: Private Property,South by: Layout of Jayanagar Co-operative Society,Measuring East to West: 100 feet, and North to South 182 feet, totally measuring 18,200 Sq.ft. **SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY:** All that piece and parcel of Flat bearing No. B-004 in Ground Floor, B Block, having Two Bed Room, having 1242 Sq.ft., of super built up are in an apartment known GARUDADRI SPRINGS along with 379 Sq.ft., of undivided share in Schedule 'A' Property and along with 1 Car Parking Space.East by: Common Corridor, West by: Area Open to Sky, North by: Area Open to Sky, South by: Flat No B-003,	**Rs 1,80,27,677/-** (Rupees One Crore Eighty Lakhs Twenty-Seven Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Seven Only) as on Possession Notice dated 23.01.2026 plus interest and other legal charges	**22.04.2026** between 02.00 PM to 06.00 PM	**Property No. 1** : **Rs. 77,50,000/-** **Rs.7,75,000/-** **till 2 PM** **Rs. 50,000/-** **Property No. 2** : **Rs. 62,50,000/-** **Rs.6,25,000/-** **till 2 PM** **Rs. 50,000/-**	**Constructive Possession**	With prior appointment from Authorised Officer

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm and online auction portal https://baanknet.com and Also, prospective bidders may contact the Branch head on Tel No. 080-23201561 & Mobile 9833009762.

Date: 13.03.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
Bank of Baroda, Basaveshwaranagar Branch

STATE BANK OF INDIA

HSR LAYOUT BRANCH , Sector -2, Opp. NIFT,
27th Main Sector-1,HSR Layout, Bangalore - 560 102,
Karnataka. Ph: 25726890, E-mail : sbi.30495@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE

Under Rule - 8 (1) (For immovable property)

Borrower: Mahitha Industries , A/c. No: 42607019433, 42689039689

WHEREAS, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, Sector 2 HSR Layout, Bengaluru, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated **23.10.2025,** calling upon the Borrower **M/s. Mahitha Industries,** Proprietor **Govindappa Venkatesh** S/o. Govindappa, Factory @ No. 1056/1052A, 2nd Main Road, Hegganahalli, Bengaluru- 560 058. to repay the amount mentioned in the noticebeing **Rs. 67,74,845/-** (Rupees Sixty Seven Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Five only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub Section 4 of Section 13 of the the Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules 2002 on this **09.03.2026.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount of **Rs. 71,91,427/-** (Rupees Seventy One Lakhs Ninety One Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty Seven only) as on 09.03.2026 and interest from & charges thereon, till the realization of the dues.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF MOVABLE ASSETS

Details of Hypothicated Assets : Current Assets including Stocks in Trade, Receivables, Consumable Stores and Spares and entire current assets of the company mentioned in the documents (Scheule B)
1. Primary Security : Stocks , **Type :** Precision components, automobile spare parts raw materials etc., **Value :** Rs.8,00,000/-
2. Primary Security : Machinery (1), **Type :** Yantranga VMC series VX800 with 4th axis DIA 200 mm rotary table, Specification : Yantrang VMC Series VX 800 and other accessories:
1. Rapid Traverse 24M/Min
2. 7.5/11 KW servo spindle motor
3. BT40 Cartridge Type Spindle
4. Machine with 4th Axis Dia 200 mm rotary Table and ,
and all other accessories mentioned as per quotation dated 18.11.2023 by RT Enterprises. Value : Rs.65,00,000/-

Total Value : Rs.73,00,000/-
Place:Bengaluru
Date:09.03.2026

Sd/- Authorised Officer,
STATE BANK OF INDIA
Sector 2, HSR Layout Branch, Bengaluru

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Home Loan Centre, HSR Layout
No.241, 19th Main Road 4th Sector, HSR Layout, Bengaluru-560 102.
Mob No. 9972361099, Email: racpc.hsr@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE

Under Rule - 8 (1) (For immovable property)

File No.KNR/15035/HL/202, Account Nos. 65216958240 &65216959902

WHEREAS, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (No. 3 of 2002) issued a Demand Notice dated **08.09.2024** calling upon the borrower **Shri. A Gopala,** S/o. Appoji Gowda to repay the amount mentioned in the notice **Rs. 25,68,929/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Sixty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Nine only) as on 07.09.2025**and interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said rules on **10.03.2026**

The borrowerin particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount of **Rs. 24,34,094/-** (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Thirty FourThousand Ninety Fouronly) as on 07.03.2026 and interest + expenses thereon.

The borrower's/ mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Sale Deed Regd. Doc. BNS-1-14296-2014-15, CD No. BNSD339, dated 25.11.2014 at SRO: Shivajinagar (Banaswadi), Bengaluru.

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No. 19, formed in Property No. 45, Khatha No. 45, situated at Kalkere Channasandra Village, (K Channasandra), Krishnarajapura Hobli, erstwhile Bengaluru South Taluk, now Bengaluru East Taluk, now comes within the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, totally measuring 1200 Square feet, together with 900 Square feet RCC Roofed House with Granite Flooring, Honne Wood Doors and Steel windows along with water, electricity and sanitary amenities attached thereto, standing in the name of Shri. A Gopala S/o. Appaji Gowda and bounded on the East by: Road, West by: Private property, North by: Site No. 20 and South by: Site No. 18. Standing in the name of Sri.A Gopala S/o. Appoji Gowda.

Place:Bengaluru
Date: 10.03.2026

Sd/-Authorised Officer,
State Bank of India, Home Loan Centre,
HSR Layout Bengaluru

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)

Regional Office West Branch
Chitrapur Mutt Complex,
Malleswaram 15th Cross,
Bangalore-560055

DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)] TO BORROWER/GUARANTOR/MORTGAGOR

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

'We, **Canara Bank, Regional Office West Branch** had issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post with Acknowledgment Due (RPAD) to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledged and returned due to non-availability of addressees at the said addresses / due to evading of service of the notices sent by RPAD, notice could not be served. Further, Bank had served the said demand notices by affixture at the addresses given. The contents of the said notices are mentioned herein below.

1. Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor : (1) Mr.Mahanthesh Shindhe, S/o Gopal Sindhe No 43, 4th Main Road Meenakshi Nagar, Kamakshipalya, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru-560079 **(2) Mr.Lokesh Shindhe (Co-borrower)** S/o Gopal Dyamanna Shindhe, D. No. 12 3 30A5, Anugraha Complex Moodanidamboor, Brahmagiri Circle, Udupi, Karnataka-576102 **(2a) Mr.Lokesh Shindhe (Co-borrower)** S/o Gopal Dyamanna Shindhe, 16/43 Shri Durga Anugraha Nivasa, 4th Main, Meenakshi Nagar, Kamakshipalya, Bangalore North, Basaveshwaranagar, Karnataka-560079 **(3) Mrs. Kamalakshi (Co-borrower),** W/o Mr.mahanthesh Shindhe, No. 43,4th Main Road, Meenakshi Nagar, Kamakshipalya, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru North, Bangalore-560079.

Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the borrower:

Sl. No	Nature of Loan/ Limit	Date of Sanction	Amount of Sanction	Liability With Interest as on 12.03.2026	Rate of Interest
1	Term loan 2529605002845	06/11/2020	Rs. 27,00,000/-	Rs. 18,08,529.48	11.10 + 2 % (penal interest)

Total Liability Amount: Rs.18,08,529.48 (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty Nine and Forty Eight Paise Only) together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.
NPA Date : 11.03.2026 **Demand Notice Dated : 13.03.2026**
Name of Title holder : Mr .Mahantesh Shindhe.
Description Immovable Property: All that part and parcel of Southern portion of the Property bearing No 71/7, Sy No 71/7, House List No 1414, CMC khatha No 1324, Kamakshipalya Village, Saneguruvanhalli Dhakale,Yeshwanthpura Hobli Bangalore North Taluk , Now comes under the Administrative jurisdiction of Bruhuth Bangalore, Ward No. 18 Municipal No. 15, PID No. 18-14-15 4th main Road Meenakshinagara Kamakshipalya Bengaluru Measuring East to West 40 ft and North to South 15 ft, Totally measuring 600 sq feet and consist of RCC roofed 5 squares Building at ground, First and second floors and bounded on : East by :Property belongs to Smt.Shamakka, West By :Road, North By :Northern portion of property belongs to Smt. Lalitha, South By : Road.

You are here by called upon to pay **Canara Bank,** within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the amount mentioned here above, failing which **Canara Bank** will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers and the Guarantors. The powers available to **Canara Bank** under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the Borrower / Guarantors / Mortgager including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by **Canara Bank** shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the Demand Notice affixed and also Hypothecated / Mortgaged to the bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section (13)2 of the said Act.

Date : 14.03.2026
Place : Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that **SRI. RAJASHEKAR.B S/o late Sri.Bhuvaneshwar.R** is the owner of immovable property mentioned in the schedule hereunder and he has lost the original Sale Deed dated 4/01/1968 bearing Document No.5647/1967-68, Book-I, executed by Sri.P.L.Narayana Swamy in favour of Sri.K.R.Ramakrishna registered in the office of sub registrar, Bangalore, In case anybody having any claims or in possession of the said document, shall inform the under singed and handover the same within SEVEN DAYS from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the bearing **Property No.38,** New No.20, II Main Road, Nagappa Block, Bangalore-560 021, measuring 20 feet x 40 feet, together with built up area of 800 square feet of commercial building in the ground floor and (ii) a duplex house comprising of 800 square feet in the first floor and another 800 square feet, measuring East to West 20 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 800 sq.feet and bounded and bounded on: East by : Temple, West by: Road (II Main), North By : Mahakavi Kuvempu Road, South by : Shanthamma,s House.

N. JAGADEESH KUMAR, Advocate
No.30/1, 2nd Floor, 7th Cross, Near NR Colony-Bus Stand, Opp. Hotel Dwaraka,
Bangalore-560019, Cell # 9341261700.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, our clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owners **PRAVEEN PODDAR HUF, represented by its Kartha SRI.PRAVEEN PODDAR and NAVEEN PODDAR HUF represented by its Kartha SRI.NAVEEN PODDAR,** residing at No.1010/A, 10th Main, 3rd Stage, 1st Block, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru- 560 079. If any persons have any manner of claim, right, title, interest or demand of any nature in or over the Schedule Property, they are hereby requested to file their objections along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying, with the undersigned within **14 (Fourteen)** days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on our clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing **Municipal No.117,** Property No.79/117, PID No-63-133-117, E.P.I.D.No.4784586130, measuring East to West 83ft and North to South 30ft, in all measuring 2490 Sq.ft, with a building thereon, situated at **2nd Main, Bharathi Layout, Suddaguntepalya,** Bengaluru, within the administrative limits of BBMP Ward No.152 and bounded as follows: **East by:** Road, **West by:** Property bearing No.83, **North by:** Property bearing No.116 & 84, **South by:** Property bearing No.118

Sd/- BAYYA REDDY. M
For ISHA LAW CHAMBERS LLP
Advocates & Solicitors
No.101, 2nd Floor, Sri Manjunatha Complex, 22nd Main Road, BSK 2nd Stage, Opp : Banashankari BDA Complex, Bengaluru- 560 070.

IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE AT DODDABALLAPUR
O.S.No. 152/2011

Plaintiffs : Doddarasamma and others
V/s
Defendants : Muthanarasaiah and others
4. Ankith Jain.R, age 29 years, S/o.Rajesh Kumar, R/o. No.8/15, Kalavai Street, Chinthodaripet, Annasalai, Chennai-600002, Tamilnadu.
5. Mr.Sanjay, age 44 years, S/o. Parashlal, R/o. Plot No.501, Globus Nakshatra, 5th Floor, B-1 Block, Gopal Layout, VTC, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu-641001
7. Mr.N.Samyak Golecha, age 21 years, S/o.Naveen Golecha, R/o. No.54/70, Medax Street, Choolai, Chennai, Tamilnadu-600112.
8. Mr.Roshan.P, age 32 years, S/o.B.Padma Chand, R/o. No.7, New Bunglow Street, Chinthadripet, Annasalai, Chennai, Tamilnadu-600002
9. Mr. M.Rishab, age 38 years, S/o.C. Mothilal, R/o. No.16/3, G Floor, National High School Road, V.V. Puram, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560004.
10. Mr.Prem Prakash.M age 55 years, S/o. Mangilal Jain, R/o.No.2 Bazar Street, Vartharajapuram, Ambattur, Thiruvallur, Tamilnadu-600053.

NOTICE

Whereas the Plaintiffs have filed the above suit against you for the relief of Partition in respect of the schedule properties situated at Chiguranahally and Kadathippur, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk against M.Mutharasaiah and others. Plaintiffs have filed an application to implead the following proposed defendants in the case as they are necessary parties. Plaintiffs have taken suit summons to the proposed defendants 4, 5, 7 to 10 through court and also by Speed Post. Proposed defendants 4, 5, 7 to 10 have deliberately and intentionally avoided the summons. Hence you are hereby summoned through paper publication in Indian Express daily to appear before the Court in person or by Pleader on the day **17-4-2026** to answer the same, failing which the case will be disposed of exparte by the Hon'ble court.

SCHEDULE

Item No. 2
Property bearing Sy.No.19 and 20 measuring 4 acres 28 guntas and 4 acres 28 guntas respectively situated at Chigaranahally Village, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapur taluk and having common boundaries and bounded as follows, East by : Bommalli Elle West By : Lands of Ramakrishnaiah & Arasappa North by : Sy. No.17 of Chigaranahally South by : Sy.No.21 of Chikka Doddaiah & N.Veeranna's land
Item No. 3
Property bearing Sy.No.16, measuring 4 acres 26 guntas and situated at Chigaranahally Village, Doddabelavangala Hobli,Doddaballapur taluk and bounded as follows East by : Bommalli Elle West By Lands of Ramakrishnaiah & Arasappa North by: Nanjappa's land in Sy.No.16 South by : Land of Sy.No.17
Item No. 4
The land bearing Sy.No.53/1 measuring 18 guntas, situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapur taluk, bounded on East by : Land of Thammannappa West By : Land of Mutharasaiah North by : Land of Banavegowda South by : Land of Nanjaiah
Item No. 5
The land bearing Sy.No.37/17 measuring 1 acre 15 guntas situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapur taluk, bounded on East by : Land of Govindappa West By : Land of bearing Sy.No.50 North by : Road South by : Government Halla
Item No. 6
The land bearing Sy.No.50/2 measuring 1 acre 23 guntas situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Doddaballapur taluk, bounded on East by : Government Road West By : Sy.No.50/1 North by : Land of Muddarangaiah South by : Sarakari Road
Item No. 7
The land bearing Sy.No.39/2 measuring 1 acre 16 guntas situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Hobli. Doddaballapur taluk, bounded on East by : Bommahally Border West By : Halla North by : Sy.No.39/1 South by : Land of C.Nanjaiah
Item No. 8
The and bearing Sy.No.47/7 measuring 1 acre 1 guntas, situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddabailapur taluk, bounded on East by : Land of A.Rangarasaiah West By : Land of Thammannappa North by : Road South by : Land of C.Nanjaiah
Item No.9
The land bearing Sy.No.47/9 measuring 12 guntas, situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapur taluk, bounded on East by : Land of Lakkarasaiah West By : Land of Thammannappa North by : Land of C.Nanjaiah South by : Land of Bheemanna
Item No.10
The land bearing Sy.No.47/11 measuring 4 guntas, situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapur taluk, bounded on East by : Land of Bheemanna West By : Land of C.Nanjaiah North by : Land of Bheemanna South by : Land of Arasappa
Item No.11
The land bearing Sy.No.39/1 measuring 24 guntas, situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapur taluk, bounded on East by : Halla West By : Halla North by : Sy.No.39 South by : Land of Mutharasaiah
Item No.12 The land bearing Sy.No.50/4 measuring 1 acre 1 gunta, situated at Kadathippuru, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapur taluk, bounded on East by : Land of Mutharasaiah West By : Road North by : Road South by : Sarakari Halla

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this the **12th day of March 2026**

BY THE ORDER OF THE COURT.
Sd/- Principal
Senior Civil Judge Court, Doddaballapur

Sd/- Advocate fo Plaintiff
M.Krishnamurthy, B.A.LLB, Advocate,
No.522, 'Indrani Nivasam' Na.Nanjundaiah Road, Near New Bus Stand, Doddaballapur

Pietersen not with DC for IPL 2026

Former England captain Kevin Pietersen, who mentored the Delhi Capitals last year, said that he won't be able to serve the role in IPL 2026. "I cannot be the mentor for Delhi Capitals this IPL season. I cannot give the time that the job requires. Best wishes to all the players for this season!," Pietersen said on X in a post written in Hindi.

IPL'S CHALLENGES IN TIME OF CRISIS

With energy sector hit, especially cooking gas, it needs to be seen how league think-tank navigates should the West Asia conflict continue

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@ Chennai

THE next edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) is scheduled to begin on March 28 in Bengaluru. Actually, scratch that. The next edition of the IPL is a scheduled to begin on March 28 in Bengaluru but subject to how the situation in West Asia progresses over the next 10 days. In all likelihood, the defending champions, RCB, as has been customary, may have the honour of opening the league but subject to the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) implementing the recommendations of the Justice Michael D'Cunha report following the stampede and the strategy during the victory celebrations outside the M Chinnaswamy Stadium last year.

So, it's fair to say that the 19th edition of one of the world's richest sporting leagues is facing some headwinds as another season approaches. Outside of geopolitical factors as well as the issue around the Stadium -- some sources have suggested that the Stadium will receive the necessary go-ahead — other factors too may play a role. With elections scheduled to be held in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu in the Summer, the officials can only announce the fixtures for the rest of the campaign once the Elections Commission releases the dates as well as counting (Assam, too, is going to polls but Guwahati may have already finished hosting its quota of games for the season by then).

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On Thursday night, Devajit Saikia, the secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), posted a facebook link on his X. It was a news item. It basically said the secretary was confident that the war wouldn't affect the IPL. His comments came just a few days after the chair of the IPL GC, Arun Dhumal, had told this daily that 'we are reviewing the development'. "Since this is an evolving situation, nothing can be said of now. But we will take a call accordingly."

Whether the BCCI wants or not, the conflict in West Asia could well affect the situation around the IPL. The IPL has shown some robustness in shape-shifting whenever factors have threatened its conduct. In 2009, because of the general elections, they staged the whole show in South Africa. Two editions have been held in the UAE (one can confidently say there's zero chance of hosting it there in 2026) because of Covid. The 2014 edition was staged there for a few weeks, again because of general election. That way, the IPL, irrespective of the body's leadership group, have showed they can adapt and adjust according to the situation.

This time, too, they may have to display that.

While the Indian government have stressed for peace, they have not yet managed to get any major long-term concessions with respect to the flow of energy products via the Strait of Hormuz. Why is it that important? The narrow stretch of water is one of the world's most critical energy chokepoints, with 20% of the world's energy needs flowing through it. From an India perspective, they import over 80% of their energy needs via this Strait. If they cannot get any concessions from the Iranian government, the country will begin to feel the pinch as supply chains begin to dwindle.

They have managed to get permission from the US government to purchase Russian oil already in the market but that's only for a month. So far, the authorities have stressed for calm, maintaining that there's enough supply. But they have also put in place a tiered priority system.

In it, Industrial and commercial consumers — star hotels and restaurants, for example — have been placed in Priority Sector IV. And they will receive only 80% of their average consumption. And when IPL teams come calling, they usually consume a lot of energy. Some of them are over 100-strong including families of players and an army of support staff. They generally tend to take over entire floors. Hotels may not have the capacity to cater to their demands for over two months if supply chains are badly hit already.

That's just one of the many ways the IPL could feel the energy pinch in the next two-and-a-half months.

The Indian government has maintained there's enough refined fuel stocks to tide over the crisis but scenes in petrol bunks in a few places across the country has led to some fears of an upcoming fuel crunch. In several petrol bunks in Chennai, they had run out of petrol. It forced several firms to issue advisories, advising citizens to not panic. Some reports have stated that the country has stocks worth at least 50 days.

But it's clear that supply chains have been hit and the war is not showing any signs of reaching a conclusion. If anything, the US and Israel have amped up rhetoric over the last 24 hours, including attacking Kharg, one of Iran's most important oil resources. In such a scenario, how much crude will enter India in the days and weeks ahead?

Why is crude important to the running of the IPL? A one sentence answer are floodlights. According to some associations, venues where IPL is scheduled to be held in the first two weeks, they need at least 2500-3000 litres of diesel to ensure continuous and uninterrupted use of floodlights for all night matches. In case there's a supply shock to the system, it may create significant challenges to play night games or even evening games. With Indian summers very harsh, starting games at 1.00 PM may be out of the question.

Outside of floodlights, resources are needed to keep a Stadium functioning during the 75-day gala. This newspaper has already reported how some of the caterers are planning the bracing up to manage gas crunch. Using of tandoors, electric stoves and grills are some of the alternatives they are exploring. Some even said that the menu would change and fry items will be replaces by tandoor and grilled items.

Also keep in mind the distress calls made by small businesses and restaurants. Some of these same restaurants, as well as other hotels, usually set up stalls to feed the over 30,000 people who move through the turnstiles on an everyday basis for two months. Will they be able to source commercially available LPG to keep that running? Answers to this may be known later this month.

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On Friday, Gudakesh Motie, the West Indies spinner, opted out of the upcoming Pakistan Super League (PSL). Motie, one of the players who was stranded in India till a few days ago, had just reached his place. It's not yet known if that was his primary reason but it begs the question. What about the IPL-bound West Indies players who were part of the World Cup? Will they be able to come back in time for the opener on March 28? This may sound like scaremongering but at least one commercial airline has cancelled all flights from London to Abu Dhabi indefinitely.

Other airlines may take a call to cancel flights to West Asia. Of course, the IPL has the financial bandwidth to operate charter flights from Africa and Europe but this is a new development to keep in mind.

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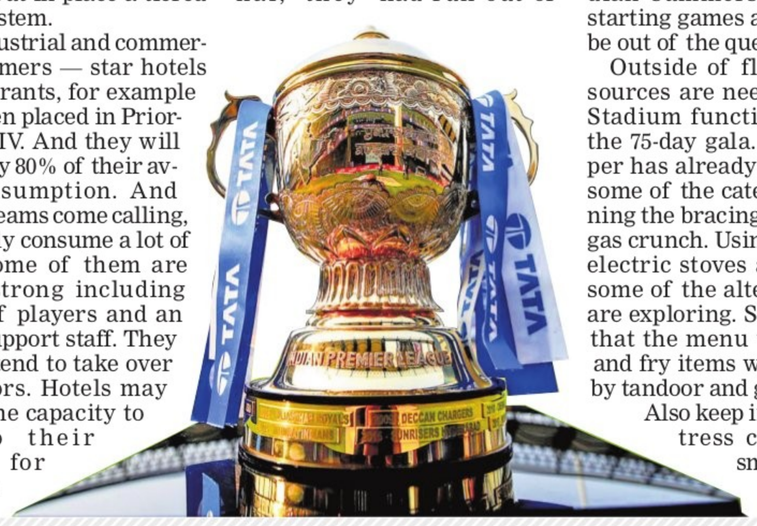
By all accounts, it's been business as usual inside IPL HQ. Teams have started the final leg of their pre season camps, new jerseys have been stitched and franchises have already announced plans in the lead up. At JioHotstar, employees are planning as usual. There is an air of calm authority. Before long, all the camera equipment will be in place. The players should be there. Will diesel and gas follow them?

The million dollar question.

UPDATE ON IPL CENTRE STATES

As the West Asia conflict continues, gas crisis in the country is creating issues in several states. The sharp decline in supply of commercial LPG has hit hotels, hostels, private lodges and restaurants across several states. Hotel association said gas supply has forced them to trim menus and in future they might turn to electric appliances. Here are the states with IPL centres...

- Tamil Nadu (Chennai)
- Karnataka (Bengaluru)
- Telangana (Hyderabad)
- Maharashtra (Mumbai)
- Assam (Guwahati)
- Punjab (Mullanpur)
- UP (Lucknow)
- West Bengal (Kolkata)
- Gujarat (Ahmedabad)
- Delhi (New Delhi)



SPORTS BEAR BRUNT

A LOOK AT SOME SPORTING EVENTS THAT ARE AFFECTED DUE TO WEST ASIA TURMOIL...

CRICKET
The bilateral series between Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, scheduled to begin on March 13 in the UAE, was postponed due to current crisis.

WEIGHTLIFTING
The Asian event, scheduled to be held in Ahmedabad, has been pushed from April to May to ensure safe travel of participants.

FOOTBALL
The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) was forced to postpone Champions League Elite (West Region last 16) set for early March.

FORMULA ONE
F1 races in Bahrain on April 10-12 and Saudi Arabia a week later are set to be cancelled or rescheduled, due to the conflict in West Asia.

TENNIS
A ATP Challenger event (March 2-8) in UAE was halted mid-match and subsequently cancelled due to security concerns.

BASKETBALL
FIBA World Cup 2027 Asian Qualifiers matches this month — including India's tie vs Lebanon were postponed.

EXPRESS READ

Four Indians reach Futures Cup finals

BANGKOK: India's young boxers continued their impressive run at the World Boxing Futures Cup 2026, with Chandrika, Gunjan, Joyshree Devi and Ambekar Meetei advancing to the finals after registering convincing victories in their semifinal bouts here on Saturday. In the women's 51kg category, Chandrika beat Rihab Hamdoune of Morocco by Referee Stopped Contest (RSC) in Round 2, sealing her place in the gold-medal bout.

Swiss Open: Tharun loses to Ginting

BASEL: India's Tharun Mannepalli put up a gallant fight before going down to Indonesia's Anthony Sinisuka Ginting in a thrilling three-game quarterfinal at the Swiss Open Super 300 badminton tournament here. The world No. 43 Indian lost 19-21, 21-19, 13-21 to Ginting, who is returning from injuries. The defeat also brought the curtains down on India's campaign at the $250,000 tournament.

BCCI to honour Binny, Dravid & Mithali

CHENNAI: Former India all-rounder Roger Binny and former captains Rahul Dravid and Mithali Raj are to be honoured with the lifetime achievement award at the BCCI annual awards 2026 on Sunday in New Delhi. The two men's cricketers will receive the Col CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award while Mithali will be honoured with BCCI Lifetime Achievement Award for Women. At the event, all five ICC trophy winning teams across men, women and junior are also set to be felicitated.

Senior nat'l TT: PSPB, RSPB start strongly

INDORE: Traditional powerhouses PSPB and RSPB started their campaign in the 87th UTT Senior National Table Tennis Championships with dominant victories, moving closer to the knockout stage here on Saturday. In the men's section, PSPB set the early pace in Group A with convincing 3-0 victories over Andhra Pradesh and Punjab. Later, RSPB asserted control in Group B, defeating Rajasthan 3-1 before brushing aside Gujarat 3-0.

Nieva hopeful of strong show during Asian meet

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

THE usual grind to elevate their all-round boxing skills with special focus on tactics and an offbeat session to lighten up the atmosphere and inculcate team spirit, the last few weeks have been a good learning experience for Indian boxers. Santiago Nieva, head coach of the women's boxing team, is one of the key figures who has been overseeing the boxers' daily progress. Now, Nieva is hopeful that those sessions will translate into success during the upcoming Asian Championships at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, which is set to be held from March 28 to April 11.

After a fairly successful 2025 for women, the team is in high spirits and eager to maintain their rhythm. The said continental meet will be their first major tournament of the year. The importance of this event cannot be understated as it can decide the future for all. If the boxers manage to reach the finals, they'll be an automatic choice for the Commonwealth Games and the Asian Games, which will be held later this year. In a competitive sport like boxing, that's a big advantage to have.

Nieva is not new to Indian boxing, having served earlier as high-performance director from 2017 to 2021. Having had a good look at talent in store since his comeback (rejoined earlier this year), he has a fair idea on where the boxers stand. Nieva said the coaching staff mainly focussed on their technique, especially their guard. "It's (worked on) a bit of everything. We mainly worked on some of the technical things with the girls. We looked at how they can use a strong guard, especially those who have very good feet, moving in and out. Their defensive side, using side steps... Sometimes, when they are a little bit tired, they tend to become quite messy, their punches. We are working a little bit on how they can manage those things," he told this daily. "With (worked) their footwork and also their upper body movement, also working on building a strong guard to tighten their defence, especially if the opponent comes on very aggressively or they are a little bit tired towards the last round and how to stay compact during those times and also how to counter effectively during those times. We implemented those things in Spain already and hopefully, we can add more during the Asian Championships," the Argentina-born tactician from Sweden added.

The first batch of boxers including Nikhat Zareen reached Mongolia on Saturday. Nieva, who's part of the second batch, is set to leave on Sunday. The team will get ample time to acclimatise and apply finishing touches to their skills. Nikhat, one of the medal contenders, will be taking part in an international meet for the first time this year. Olympic medallist Lovlina Borgohain, who captured a gold medal during the Boxam Tournament at Spain in February, is another member of the team who needs no introduction.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Abdulla wins gold, pole vaulters secure CWG berth

SAPTARSHI C @ Bengaluru

POLE VAULTER Dev Meena, and triple jumper Abdulla Aboobacker shone on Day 1 of the Indian Open Jumps competition at the Anju Bobby High Performance Centre on Saturday.

While Aboobacker and Praveen Chithravel locked horns in a gripping triple jump contest, the pole vault arena produced equally thrilling moments with Meena and Kuldeep Kumar, both representing Madhya Pradesh, giving a run for their money. In the triple-jump pit, Aboobacker had the upper hand. Aboobacker got his rhythm right in his third attempt to take home the gold medal with a distance of 16.83m. He improved his mark from 16.05m in the first attempt to 16.57m in his second. Chithravel's 16.78m leap earned him silver in the season-opening competition. "He got some good speed and strength, but needs to improve his ankle work, which we are focusing on now in training," Chithravel's coach and former Cuban triple jumper Yoandri Betanzos said.

For the pole vault event, the crossbar was set at 5.25m for the decisive attempts. Both athletes cleared it successfully, leaving them as the final two competitors in the competition. For Kuldeep Kumar, this breakthrough jump represented a significant new personal best, surpassing his previous mark of 5.15m.

Meena, who holds the national record of 5.40m, used the event as a confident season opener. After securing the win at 5.25m, he pushed further. After successfully clearing 5.35m, he narrowly missed out on bettering his national record. Kuldeep, meanwhile, fell short at 5.35m after three attempts. "We had to prepare well. Both (Meena & Kuldeep) of us came with the mindset to clear the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games cut-offs," he told this daily. He also called on the government to improve the condition of stadiums and facilities across India to better support athletes' training and development.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

BFC frustrate Bagan in 0-0 draw

SAPTARSHI C @ Bengaluru

BENGALURU FC held firm against league leaders Mohun Bagan Super Giant in a 0-0 stalemate in the Indian Super League at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Saturday.

Mohun Bagan remain top of the table with their unbeaten run intact, while the Blues move to eight points from five matches and remain competitive in the mid-table scrap. In a match that promised fireworks given the attacking talent on display, both sides prioritised defensive solidity over flair, resulting in a cagey affair with few clear-cut chances. The home side started with intent, pressing high and looking to exploit the flanks through Ryan Williams and Ashique Kuruniyan. BFC talisman Sunil Chhetri had two efforts denied, with Anirudh Thapa throwing himself in the way to block both attempts. BFC's emphasis on keeping the ball on the ground and limiting the use of long balls seemed clear. "I'm very happy with the way BFC played today. We defended well and kept the ball low, which is very important," head coach Renedy Singh said in the post-match press conference.The Mariners grew into the game as the half wore on. Jamie Maclaren tested Gurpreet Singh Sandhu with a low drive, while Liston Colaco's pace caused problems on the counter.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

South & North win, DSJA in TT finals

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

RISHABH Singh's sparkling unbeaten century powered North Zone to a commanding nine-wicket victory over West Zone in the JK Bose Inter-Zonal T20 Cricket Trophy at the Roshanara Cricket Club here on Saturday, during the Golden Jubilee edition of the Sports Journalists Federation of India (SJFI) National Convention. South Zone beat East Zone comfortably in other match.

Batting with authority, Rishabh smashed an unbeaten 102 off just 43 balls, peppering the ground with 18 fours and two sixes as North Zone chased down the modest target of 134 with ease. Earlier, West Zone were bundled out for 133 in 19.2 overs after opting to bat.

PTI's Bharat Sharma was among the standout performers as Delhi Sports Journalists Association (DSJA-1) entered the table tennis final where they will face Sports Journalist Association of Mumbai.

FOOTBALL ROUND UP

Nine-man Bayern Munich hold on for draw at Leverkusen

AGENCIES @ Leverkusen

LEADERS Bayern Munich held on for a 1-1 draw at Bayer Leverkusen despite finishing with nine men in an eventful Bundesliga clash on Saturday. Second-placed Borussia Dortmund's comfortable home win at Augsburg drew them nine points behind reigning champions Bayern with eight games to play. Aleix Garcia's goal gave Leverkusen the lead and Bayern striker Nicolas Jackson saw red before half-time.

Luis Diaz levelled things up but picked up a second yellow card for diving in the box. Bayern held firm to grab a point, even as Leverkusen had two efforts chalked off in stoppage time. Bayern also had strikes from Jonathan Tah and substitute Harry Kane ruled out by VAR for handball in a sometimes manic match at the BayArena. Dortmund inched closer to Bayern with Karim Adeyemi and Luca Reggiani both getting on the scoresheet in a 2-0 home win over Augsburg.

EPL: Brighton grab win

Brighton beat Sunderland 1-0 to climb into the top half of the Premier League, while Burnley held Bournemouth in the Premier League. Sunderland were unbeaten in their first 11 home games back in the top flight but have now lost their last three at the Stadium of Light to slip to 12th. Yankuba Minteh scored the only goal when his shot somehow squeezed past goalkeeper Melker Ellborg.

BayernMunich players celebrate during the clash against Bayer Leverkusen | AP

CHEAP DRONES, BILLION-DOLLAR WARS AND THE BATTLE OF PERCEPTION

JAVARIA RANA @ NEW DELHI

WARS have always extracted a steep price from those who wage them. But the ongoing confrontation, now in its third week, between the United States and Israel on one side and Iran on the other has shown the light on a strategic reality that defence planners are only beginning to fully reckon with. A militarily inferior power, through calculated and asymmetric means, can impose costs on a superior one that are entirely disproportionate to its own expenditure.

In the first six days of American military operations alone, Pentagon officials told US lawmakers in a closed-door briefing that the cost of the campaign had already crossed $11.3 billion, covering precision-guided munitions, bomber and carrier sorties and missile defence activity, but excluding lost aircraft, damaged infrastructure and broader deployment overheads. The actual cost can be much higher.

At the centre of this imbalance is a cheap drone. Iran's Shahed-136 loitering munition, estimated to cost between $20,000 and $50,000 per unit, has repeatedly compelled American and allied forces to respond with interceptors costing exponentially more. A single Patriot PAC-3 missile runs to $3-4 million, while a THAAD interceptor can exceed $10 million per launch. The arithmetic is unforgiving.

Naval mines laid in the Strait of Hormuz and alleged Chinese supply lines providing components and radar technology to Tehran have added further pressure on an already strained battlefield calculus.

Perception warfare has proved equally consequential. Both sides have claimed successes the other has vigorously disputed. AI-generated and doctored images purporting to show destroyed carriers, burning cities and mass-casualty strikes have circulated widely on social media, many debunked by open-source analysts within hours but not before reaching millions of viewers. Decoys and dummy equipment have been struck and presented as significant hits. Civilian casualty figures remain bitterly contested. In a conflict where controlling the narrative is as vital as controlling the airspace, separating operational fact from strategic messaging has become a challenge in itself.

Three forces are driving the shape of this conflict: cheap strike systems are rewriting the rules of warfare; air-defence networks face unprecedented strain; and the battle for perception is shaping how the world sees and judges this war.

The rise of the sky's new AK-47

The weapon that has most defined this conflict did not originate in the arsenals of a superpower. The Shahed-136 is 3.5 metres long, weighs roughly 200 kilograms, is powered by a piston engine reverse-engineered from a German civilian aircraft motor and carries a 50-kilogram fragmentation warhead in its nose. It cruises at low altitude along pre-programmed GPS routes and announces its arrival with a distinctive buzzing sound that Ukrainians, who encountered it first, have compared to a lawnmower.

Russia began deploying Iranian-supplied Shaheds against Ukrainian cities in October 2022, striking power grids and civilian infrastructure in waves that drew immediate international condemnation. What the AK-47 was to the twentieth century, the Shahed has become to this one; cheap enough to produce at scale, lethal enough to matter, expendable enough to be treated as a commodity.

Over three years of battlefield use in Ukraine, it was quietly improved, adding anti-jamming antennas, electronic warfare-resistant navigation and upgraded warheads iteratively through operational feedback. Iran unveiled a variant in September 2024 with a range of 4,000 kilometres. The drone that arrived over the Gulf in the past few days was a considerably more capable weapon than the one that first darkened Kyiv's skies in 2022.

Washington's answer to the drone problem has been to reverse-engineer it. The US rushed 10,000 Ukrainian-developed Merops counter-drone interceptors, priced at $1,000 to $2,000 each, to West Asia and confirmed that Task Force Scorpion Strike had, for the first time in American military history, deployed one-way attack drones in active combat. LUCAS (Low-Cost Uncrewed Combat Attack System), is a direct clone of the Shahed-136 built by Arizona-based SpektreWorks at approximately $35,000 per unit. "These low-cost drones, modelled after Iran's Shahed drones, are now delivering American-made retribution," CENTCOM said.

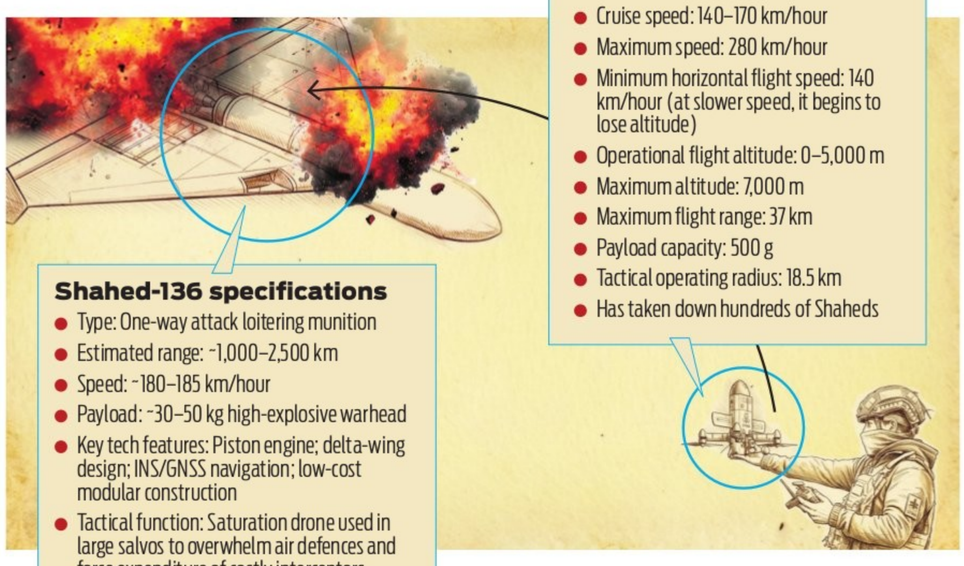
The magazine problem, Chinese shadows and the cost of losses

The financial and material toll on US forces has been striking, and underscores a rarely discussed problem in defence planning, often referred to as "magazine depth". American forces are highly capable, but even their most advanced munitions are finite and a sustained high-tempo campaign can deplete stocks faster than the industrial base can replenish them.

Beyond soaring munitions costs, hardware losses have mounted steadily. Several MQ-9 Reaper drones, each valued around $30 million, have been shot down in theatre. A KC-135 Stratotanker refuelling aircraft crashed in western Iraq, killing all six crew members, attributed by the US to technical failure. In the first week of the conflict, CENTCOM acknowledged that a friendly-fire incident involving a Kuwaiti aircraft brought down three F-15 Eagles on the same day. Approximately 140 US service members have been wounded across 10 days of sustained attacks.

Iran's layered air-defence network combines passive infrared and electro-optical sensors that do not emit radar signals, making them difficult to detect and suppress in advance. According to think-tank assessments, these systems are particularly effective against high-endurance drones operating at predictable altitudes, forcing US forces to expend higher-cost interceptors and adapt operational tactics.

China's involvement has added a technical dimension to the conflict. Reportedly, Chinese military transport aircraft delivered components to Iran, including the YLC-8B radar system developed by the Nanjing Research Institute of Electronics Technology. Operating in the UHF-band, the system is designed to counter stealth aircraft, complicating the operational use of platforms such as the F-35 Lightning II and B-2 Spirit in the Persian Gulf.



Shahed-136 specifications
- Type: One-way attack loitering munition
- Estimated range: ~1,000–2,500 km
- Speed: ~180–185 km/hour
- Payload: ~30–50 kg high-explosive warhead
- Key tech features: Piston engine; delta-wing design; INS/GNSS navigation; low-cost modular construction
- Tactical function: Saturation drone used in large salvos to overwhelm air defences and force expenditure of costly interceptors
- Shahed-107, 238 also used in Wasia campaign

Ukraine's Sting Interceptor
- Cruise speed: 140–170 km/hour
- Maximum speed: 280 km/hour
- Minimum horizontal flight speed: 140 km/hour (at slower speed, it begins to lose altitude)
- Operational flight altitude: 0–5,000 m
- Maximum altitude: 7,000 m
- Maximum flight range: 37 km
- Payload capacity: 500 g
- Tactical operating radius: 18.5 km
- Has taken down hundreds of Shaheds

Drones / Offensive attack systems
- Shahed-136 (Iran): $20,000 to $50,000
- LUCAS clone (US): $35,000
- Merops counter-drone interceptor: $1,000 to $2,000
- MQ-9 Reaper drone: $30 million per unit

Defence / Intercept systems (per shot)
- Iron Dome interceptor (Israel): $40,000 to $100,000
- Patriot PAC-3 missile (US): $4 million to $5 million
- THAAD interceptor (US): $10 million to $15 million

THE FINANCIAL TOLL

US campaign cost in first 6 days - $11.3 billion (Excludes lost aircraft, damaged infrastructure, medical support, deployment overheads)

For every Shahed drone Iran fires at roughly $50,000, the US can spend up to $15 million to shoot it down. That is a cost ratio of 300 to 1

Assessments from multiple defence studies say that Iranian missile accuracy has improved compared to previous conflicts. This is attributed in part to the fact that Iran has officially transitioned its military architecture from American GPS to China's BeiDou-3 satellite navigation system, which provides encrypted, centimetre-level precision signals resistant to Western jamming.

China has additionally been providing Iran with real-time signals intelligence and terrain mapping through its fleet of over 500 satellites. Days before the war began, Iran was in the process of finalising a deal with China for the procurement of CM-302 supersonic anti-ship missiles, the export variant of the YJ-12, capable of travelling at Mach 3 and considered by military analysts to be carrier-killers given their speed and 290-kilometre range.

Beijing has positioned itself publicly as a potential mediator while continuing to supply Tehran with technology that has materially complicated American and Israeli strike doctrine. A Hudson Institute report reads that Iran's pivot towards Chinese air defence systems reflects eroding confidence in Russian reliability as a defence partner. The posture serves Chinese interests on multiple fronts simultaneously, preserving relationships across the Gulf, keeping Washington occupied and avoiding the costs of direct confrontation, all without firing a single shot.

The Strait of Hormuz has become the conflict's most consequential pressure point, and the one Washington is arguably least prepared for. Iran declared that any vessel wishing to transit the strait must obtain Iranian approval or face attack. At least 18 commercial vessels have been struck since the war began, with Iran deploying an integrated combination of naval mines, suicide boats, sea drones and shore-based missile batteries.

The US destroyed 16 Iranian mine-laying vessels near the strait earlier this week but despite nearly two weeks of sustained strikes, Iran's small craft fleet has largely remained intact. The National Security Council and Pentagon officials had underestimated Iran's willingness to close the strait entirely, a miscalculation whose consequences continue to reverberate through energy markets and allied capitals.

The war on the screen

From the opening hours of Operation Epic Fury, psychological operations, AI-generated imagery and disinformation campaigns were woven into the military action as integral tools rather than peripheral supplements. Both sides have understood that in a conflict watched in real time by global audiences, the narrative of who is winning matters almost as much as who is actually winning.

Pro-Iran social media accounts have adopted a narrative that exaggerates the destruction wrought by Iranian forces, supported by what is being reported in Iranian state media, leading to a large number of AI-generated videos of supposed air strikes circulating widely. Accounts have been recycling footage of Iranian missile strikes from April 2024, October 2024 and June 2025 and presenting them as showing recent events.

The American response has been equally deliberate. CENTCOM shifted from traditional press releases to a sustained public counter-narrative campaign built around its official social media accounts, publicly refuting at least half a dozen specific Iranian claims, including a supposedly sunk American destroyer, multiple downed aircraft and a forced withdrawal from the region, with individual posts reaching audiences in the low millions.

What this conflict has laid bare is a fundamental shift in the nature of contemporary war. Technological superiority is no longer sufficient, the side that prevails will be the one that can impose costs, shape perception and sustain pressure across every domain at once, for as long as it takes.

Permitting the END OF LIFE with dignity

ISSAC JAMES MANAYATH @ CHENNAI

IN a landmark verdict, the Supreme Court recently allowed withdrawal of life support for a 32-year-old man in coma for the past 13 years. Though this is the court's first order allowing passive euthanasia, the groundwork for it was laid as far back as 2011.

The case that set the ball rolling

The first legal recognition of passive euthanasia came in the Supreme Court's judgment in the Aruna Shanbaug vs Union of India case in 2011. In 1973, Aruna Ramchandra Shanbaug was sexually assaulted by a janitor at the King Edward Memorial (KEM) Hospital, Mumbai, where she worked as a nurse. Shanbaug suffered severe brain injuries during the brutal attack and fell into a coma.

Decades later, in 2009, activist and author Pinki Virani filed a petition seeking the Supreme Court's approval to withdraw Shanbaugh's life support, arguing that her continued existence is a violation of her right to live with dignity. As per the petitioner, Shanbaugh "cannot be said to be a living person and it is only on account of mashed food which is put into her mouth that there is a facade of life which is totally devoid of any human element".

However, the staff at KEM Hospital, under whose care she had been, opposed the plea. In their submission, they argued, "Aruna accepts food normally and responds to commands through facial expressions or by making sounds. She appears happy and smiles when she receives her favourite food. She also enjoys devotional songs and music played in her room, which has a calming effect on her."

In the end, the court rejected Virani's plea to end Shanbaugh's life, stating it is for the KEM Hospital staff to take a call on it, and not the petitioner.

"It is the KEM Hospital staff who have been caring for her devotedly, day and night, for so many years as her next friend. Therefore, it is for them to make that decision. They have clearly expressed their wish that Shanbaug should be allowed to live," the court noted.

Guidelines laid down

However, what made this judgment significant is that the court agreed that passive euthanasia "could be considered as an option" in certain situations. Laying down the guidelines, it directed that when a euthanasia petition comes before a high court, its chief justice must constitute a two-judge bench to look into it. The bench must appoint a panel of three medical experts, which after carefully examining the patient, studying their medical history and consulting doctors treating them, must give its opinion on the right course of action. The bench can then take a call on granting passive euthanasia based on their opinion. "The above procedure should be followed all over India until Parliament makes legislation on this subject," the top court ruled.

In the Shanbaug case, it noted that if and when the authorities at the KEM Hospital feel that withdrawing Shanbaug's life-sustaining treatment is the appropriate course of action, they should be allowed to do so. Shanbaug passed away in 2015 after 42 years in a coma.

Passive euthanasia legalised

Although the court opened the door to passive euthanasia in 2011, it was only in 2018 that the "right to die with dignity" was recognised as a fundamental right under Article 21. In 2005, Common Cause, a Mumbai-based NGO, moved the Supreme Court seeking its recognition for 'living wills' or 'advance medical directives' of patients who are terminally ill. The petitioner also sought that 'the right to die with dignity' be declared a fundamental right. In its judgment, a five-judge Constitution Bench permitted the creation of a 'living will' by terminally ill patients on withdrawing medical support if they slip into a coma.

The court agreed with the petitioner and ruled that the right to live with dignity under Article 21 also includes the right to die with dignity. In doing so, it concurred with the views of American legal scholar Ronald Dworkin that "dignity may be compromised if the dying process is prolonged and involves becoming incapacitated and dependent". The court directed the Centre to ensure that persons with "deteriorated health" or those who are terminally ill are able to execute a living will that contains an appropriate course of action that can be taken if they fall into a coma.

However, before a living will can be executed, the patient's condition must be assessed by two medical boards: one appointed by the hospital treating the patient and the other by the chief medical officer of the relevant district. Both must agree that passive euthanasia is the best course of action.

Revisiting the norms

While the 2018 judgment legalised passive euthanasia, the court went a step further in 2023 by making the process easier and less time-consuming. Responding to a plea by the Indian Council of Critical Care Medicine, the court removed the requirement that a judicial magistrate attest the patient's living will and that the document be kept in the custody of the district court. The medical boards were also given 48 hours to provide their opinions.

Landmark verdict

The first court order approving passive euthanasia came nearly eight years after the Common Cause judgment. Thirty-two-year-old Harish Rana from Ghaziabad suffered severe head injuries after falling from the fourth floor of a building in 2013 and has remained in a coma for nearly 13 years. In 2024, the Delhi High Court rejected a petition by his parents seeking permission to withdraw Rana's life support, saying he was not on a ventilator.

The parents then approached the Supreme Court, which directed that two medical boards be constituted to assess Rana's condition. Both concluded that he has been in a persistent vegetative state for 13 years and has no chance of recovery. Based on these and the submissions made by his parents and others, the court ruled that prolonging Rana's life was not in his best interests and approved the withdrawal of life support.

"For the past 13 years, the appellant has lived a life defined by pain and suffering. A suffering made more cruel, as unlike most of us, he was stripped of his ability to even give voice to his anguish," Justice Pardiwala stated. Life support in the case of Rana included the Clinically Administered Nutrition (CAN), which means food delivered directly to the stomach via a PEG tube and a tracheostomy tube to help with breathing.

The Supreme Court had recognised in the Common Cause case that a feeding tube constituted a form of life support. "Passive euthanasia occurs when medical practitioners do not provide life-sustaining treatment or remove patients from life-sustaining treatment," Justice AK Sikri had said in the Common Cause judgment. While the Rana case verdict has been celebrated, what stands out in the eight years since the Common Cause ruling is the absence of legislation on passive euthanasia. The Rana case verdict reiterated that its guidelines will remain in place only until Parliament enacts a law on the subject.

TIMELINE

1996 In Gian Kaur v. State of Punjab, the Supreme Court ruled that the "right to life" under Article 21 of the Constitution does not include a "right to die"

2006 The Law Commission of India (17th Law Commission) recommended legalising passive euthanasia

2011 In Aruna Ramchandra Shanbaug v. Union of India, the Supreme Court held that passive euthanasia could be allowed in certain circumstances

2018 In Common Cause v. Union of India, the Supreme Court ruled that the right to live with dignity includes the right to die with dignity, and recognised passive euthanasia under strict guidelines

2026 In Harish Rana v. Union of India, the Supreme Court delivered its first ruling permitting passive euthanasia